

THE JOURNAL

• Friday, November 26, 1999 • 50 cents (tax included)

Sports Stunned Gauchos lose playoff match to Panthers [C1]

Sports Duffy leads St. Mary's to NCS cross country title [C1]



The Bulb revisited

Like the inhabitants that lived here, the artwork on Albany's landfill face an uncertain future

By James Carter

Armed with a staff, the figure gazes downward, though it is not clear if he is welcoming you or saying goodbye. The

See BULB, Page A10



A PORTAL, top, has been fashioned from Styrofoam, driftwood and debris. Center, Ashby Dancy, 38, known as Dancer, framed in the castle-like arch made of construction materials. Above, A sign asking that personal property not be touched, lays in the rubble.

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City wants commitment on Farmers Market

A lone restaurant and a lone day for the Farmers Market called for in owners' reciprocal agreements

By J.R. Deaton

EL CERRITO—Amid charges of lost good faith, the City Council last week refused to approve what was supposed to be a routine "ministerial" item on its agenda.

A resolution approving the final map for Plaza revitalization was tabled until mid-December so council members have time to study the matter of the owners' reciprocal agreements. As part of these agreements, Plaza owners want to restrict the Farmers Market to Wednesdays only, and plan to prohibit restaurants unless specifically approved by the owners. The council refused to approve the fi-

nal map because of these proposals, which are part of the owners' Covenants, Conditions and Restrictions (CC&Rs) draft agreements. They unanimously voted to table the matter until their second meeting in December, which should be Dec. 20.

Earlier this week Judith Decker, a spokeswoman for Albertsons, said the company "is giving serious consideration to the issue related to the Farmers' Market at the Plaza." She said they are seeking management approval to allow the Farmers' Market to continue on Tuesdays and Saturdays. Council members,

See MARKET, Page A10

Amended rehab measure divides council, wins approval for ballot

By J.R. Deaton

EL CERRITO—In a special session Monday night, the City Council amended and approved by a 3-2 vote the ballot measure to rehabilitate the swim center and park clubhouses. The amended measure calls for a "dedicated maintenance and capital replacement fund" financed annually from the city's general fund and indexed to the real estate property transfer tax.

The measure calls for a March 2000 ballot vote to fund rehabilitation of the

swim center, the Canyon Trail Clubhouse and restroom facilities at Harding, Huber and Poinsett parks. It calls for a \$5.3 million special parcel tax over 20 years, and, as proposed, the maximum tax imposed on a house would be \$58.46 annually. The March 7 ballot measure would need two-thirds voter approval to pass.

Council members Norman La Force and Jane Bartke, in what should be their last working session on the council, voted

See MEASURE, Page A10

Second test of gym contradicts initial findings

No pesticide levels detected; third test planned at middle school

By Kate Darby Rauch

ALBANY — Follow-up tests have found no trace of a highly toxic chemical detected in the air of the middle school gym two weeks ago.

Superintendent Gary Mills, who released the latest results Monday, said the district will test a third time, just to be safe.

"All the (follow-up) testing was negative. Nothing surfaced in any area," Mills

said. "At this point it looks like we're on the right course. But I don't want to take any chances."

The gym at the new Albany Middle School was closed two weeks ago after an environmental health consultant found an elevated level of the chemical methyl bromide, a toxic substance used mainly as an agricultural pesticide.

The testing was done after Albany

See GYM, Page A10

High school police officer approved

By Kate Darby Rauch

ALBANY — After months of passionate discussion and debate, the school board voted Tuesday night to hire a high school police officer.

The issue has been particularly controversial, with strong sentiments expressed on both sides.

The decision won on a 3-2 vote, with Marsha Skinner, Mary Wallmann and Owen Jones in favor and David Farrell and Bill Cain against.

"I'm looking at this not as an armed guard, but as a way to get some of the things we want," said Skinner, mentioning that an officer could provide educational programs and crime prevention activities.

About 40 people attended the meeting, which was lively as parents and teachers on both sides of the issue stood up to speak. Most speakers voiced opposition to hiring the officer.

The vote results hit an emotional chord.

"I feel depressed and sad," said Ellen Fiss, the parent of a high school student. "It's a bad message to give to children. I don't think they need to resolve things by bringing in an officer to campus with a gun."

But another parent, Eileen McKenzie, was pleased.

"I'm glad it passed. I recognize the need," she said. "Police are part of our

See OFFICER, Page A5

WORTH CHECKING OUT

Suspensions, expulsions

The Albany Unified School District Board of Education will hold a "Study Session" for the board and administrators in order for legal counsel to provide updates on suspension and expulsion procedures, on Tuesday, Nov. 30 at 7 p.m. The meeting will be held in the Cornell School multi-purpose room, 901 Cornell Ave. in Albany.

Church holiday bazaar

The Arlington Community Church Holiday Bazaar will be on Saturday, Dec. 4, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at 52 Arlington Ave. in Kensington. A vintage robin's egg blue '65 Volkswagen convertible will be auctioned at 2:30 p.m. Come and enjoy homemade baked goods, and hand-crafted gifts. Photos with Santa can be taken from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. A hot lunch with live music from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Children's crafts, vintage jewelry and gift books make the Arlington Community Church the best place to holiday shop.

Internet for beginners

Curious about the internet but new to computers? Sign up for free one-on-one tutoring with a Volunteer Internet Docent at the Albany Library, 1247 Marin Ave., every Saturday morning and some weekday evenings. For more information, or to make an appointment, call the Albany Library, 526-3720.

Holiday pancake event

A Holiday Pancake Breakfast and Toy Drive will be held on Saturday, Dec. 11 from 9-10 a.m. in El Cerrito Community Center, 7007 Mooser Lane. Tickets are \$6 per person. Visit with Santa and Mrs. Claus, plus Sparky the Dog. Call 215-4377 for reservations.

Kensington Symphony

The Kensington Symphony Orchestra, under the direction of guest conductor Harvey Benstein, will perform "Symphony No. 4" by Beethoven and "Capriccio Italian" by Tchaikovsky on Saturday, Dec. 4 at 8 p.m. at the First Baptist Church at 770 Sonoma St. in Richmond. Tickets are available at the door; they are \$10 general admission, \$8 for seniors, children under 12 are free. Details 525-4796.

Bosnian trauma survivors

Rita Maran, Ph.D., will be give a lecture

on "Human Rights and Trauma Survivors in Bosnia: An Innovative Psycho-educational Approach." Maran teaches human rights at UC Berkeley, and she worked in Bosnia for the U.S. State Department. Her doctorate is in International Relations, and she has published widely on human rights in the U.S., Bosnia and Germany. This guest lecture is a part of the community outreach of the Center for Psychological Studies' current issues in Psychology Fall 1999 series. Reception, followed by the talk, begins at 6:30 p.m. on Monday, Dec. 6. The Center for Psychological Studies is located at 1398 Solano Ave., in Albany. There is no charge to attend, but reservations are recommended. Details: 524-0291.

YMCA Giant Garage Sale

Find that special treasure at the Albany YMCA Giant Garage Sale on Saturday, Dec. 4. The Giant Garage Sale will take place at the Albany YMCA, 921 Kains Ave., near the corner of Solano and San Pablo avenues, between 9 a.m. and 3 p.m. The sale will feature everything from clothing and children's toys to household and office items. Proceeds will be used to help support Albany YMCA youth and senior classes. For more information, please call 525-1130.

Buddy Club show

The Buddy Club series of kids shows presents juggling and comedy with Ringling Bros. favorite Maggie the Clown and singer Randy McCommons on Dec. 5 at 11 a.m. at the Albany Community Center, 1249 Marin Ave., Albany. Admission: \$7 (510) 652-SHOW.

Gallery Showcase

The public is invited to view the current exhibit at the Gallery Showcase located at the Albany Community Center Library Complex, 1249 Marin Ave. in the Albany Recreation and Community Services Department office. The current show features the ceramic works of artist, Patricia O'Neil. O'Neil, who studied with Richard Akers, is a native Californian who currently resides in Crockett, and devotes much of her time to her art. The show will be up through Dec. 12 from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Animal Services logo

The Contra Costa County Animal Ser-

vices Department is looking for a logo and Local artists are encouraged to enter a logo contest. The logo will be used to depict the role of the Animal Services Department in helping animals in our community. A \$500 cash prize will be awarded to the winning artist. The deadline for entering artwork in the contest is Dec. 15. The logo must include the name Contra Costa County Animal Services and should be a simple, bold, camera-ready design drawn in black ink on white paper. Size of the logo should be approximately 8 inches by 8 inches. For more information about the Animals Services Department and a list of guidelines to enter the logo contest write to Contra Costa County Animal Services Department, 4849 Imhoff Place, Martinez, CA 94553 or call 925-672-2829.

History museum hours

The Richmond Museum of History, 400 Nevins Ave., in Richmond, announces new open hours from 1 to 4 p.m. on Wednesdays, Thursdays, Fridays and Sundays. During the holiday season we will be closed Nov. 24-27 and Dec. 20-Jan. 2. On exhibit through Jan. 10, "Shades of Richmond: Fifty Years of Family Photos." Permanent exhibits highlight Richmond's agricultural beginnings, industrial growth, and homefront war efforts during World War II. Admission is always free. Call 235-7387 for more information or to arrange tours.

Holiday Craft Fair

The East Bay Sanctuary's Annual Holiday Craft Fair will be held on Saturday, Dec. 4 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Sunday, Dec. 5 from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Held at the First Congregational Church of Berkeley, Channing Way at Dana Street, the Fair features hand-crafted items from women's cooperatives in Central America. Clothing, table decorations, tree ornaments, jewelry and numerous other items are to be found. This year folk art from Haiti, American Indian pueblos, Nepal and Thailand are also included. Many items are under \$10. On Saturday, Dec. 4 from 1:30 p.m. to 3 p.m., the Fair will focus on Haiti with a special presentation from the latest Bay Area delegation to that country. At that time Haiti art work will be discounted 10 to 25 percent. Proceeds from the event support indigenous artisans and the refugee justice work of the East Bay Sanctuary Covenant.

Thief uses 'doggy door' for entrance

By K. Osborn

ALBANY — On the afternoon of Nov. 14 a Berkeley man reported that his silver '85 Toyota Corolla was stolen while parked on the 500 block of Pierce Street. There were no witnesses.

■ At about 1 a.m. on Nov. 15 officers responded to the 1000 block of San Pablo Avenue on reports of a man and a woman arguing while at the gas pumps at the AM/PM. Officers contacted the couple and a check found that the 30-year-old San Francisco man had an outstanding parole warrant from the State Department of Correction. He was arrested and transported to the Berkeley jail to await pickup by the state.

■ At about 2:30 a.m. on Nov. 15 Oakland police contacted the Albany Police Department to report locating a gray '85 Toyota van stolen from Albany several months ago. The vehicle was not damaged and Oakland police had one suspect in custody. The owner was notified.

■ At about 9 a.m. on Nov. 15 Albany officers responded to the 500 block of Jackson Street on reports of a possible burglary when neighbors heard the sound of breaking glass. Officers investigated and learned that a husband and wife were having an argument over the phone and the husband threw the phone out the closed window. There was no action taken.

■ On the morning of Nov. 16 two residents on the 500 block of Pierce Street reported that during the night thieves had broken into their Honda and Mazda pickup. In each case the thieves performed a very messy prawn and stole items. There were no witnesses in either incident.

■ On the afternoon of Nov. 16 officers contacted a 50-year-old man who had broken into the Mobile Transition Center near the landfill and was staying inside. He was arrested for breaking and entering, cited and released with a Notice to

Due to an early deadline the El Cerrito blotter will not run this week.

Appear.

■ On the evening of Nov. 16 a resident on the 500 block of Curtis Street reported that when he returned home he discovered that thieves had broken in and performed a very messy prawn. They stole various items before departing unseen.

■ Shortly before 1 p.m. on Nov. 17 a resident on the 1000 block of Cornell Avenue reported that when he returned home after being away for about one hour he discovered that thieves had broken in through a rear window. They performed a very messy prawn, stole various items and departed without being seen.

■ On the afternoon of Nov. 17 officers responded to the area of Key Route Boulevard and Portland Avenue on reports of a red '91 Mazda Miata that vandals had spray painted. There were no witnesses.

■ On the evening of Nov. 17 a resident on the 700 block of Talbot Avenue reported that on returning home she discovered that thieves had broken into her home through a rear window. A similar situation happened to a woman on the 700 block of Talbot Avenue. In both incidences the thieves departed unseen.

■ At about 4 p.m. on Nov. 18 officers responded to the 500 block of Cleveland Avenue on reports of a group of juveniles drinking and causing a disturbance. Officers contacted the group and found that one in the group, an 18-year-old Albany man had an outstanding warrant and a no bail warrant from the Alameda County Juvenile Probation Office. He was arrested and transported to the Juvenile Detention Facility.

■ At about 10:30 p.m. on Nov. 18 officers responded to the Ivy Room

on the 800 block of ... on reports of a ... between two persons ... one had referred to ... turning with a gun ... he had an outstanding ... Oakland. He was cited ... with a Notice to Appear.

■ On the morning of ... resident on the 900 ... Street reported that ... thieves had stolen his ... Mountain bike from his ... were no witnesses.

■ On the morning of ... officers responded to ... cars being stolen. ... san, from the 400 ... Avenue and the other ... Mustang, from the ... lyn Avenue. There were ... in either case.

■ At about 10:30 a.m. ... resident on the 1000 ... mona Avenue reported ... served a thief crawling ... house through the ... rear of his home. He ... 20's, about 5-foot ... with brown sandy hair ... a blue running suit. ... when officers arrived.

■ On the afternoon of ... resident on the 400 ... Avenue reported that ... stolen her daughter's ... 18-speed girls bike from ... yard. There were no witnesses.

During the week of ... Albany officers towed ... sponded to nine false ... tended to seven lost ... animal, assisted six people ... locked out of their homes ... responded to one report ... ing dog. In the domestic ... cases responded to one ... pute, 19 reports of civil ... and 95 Civil Assists. Albany ... stopped 115 vehicles ... stations and 45 warnings. ... fighter/paramedic respiratory ... medical emergencies.

Focus on Rhoda L. Agin, Ph.D.

Rhoda Agin is Professor of Communicative Sciences and Disorders at the California State University at Hayward and owner-director of Communication Associates in Albany. Agin completed her doctor training in craniofacial anomalies and laryngeal physiology at the University of Illinois Medical Center in Chicago.

Agin is a lecturer, therapist and workshop leader specializing in voice treatment/training for speakers, actors and singers (including gospel to opera genres) and post-neurological trauma.

In 1985, Agin received a California State University Specialized Training Grant for the study of speech pathology in the Soviet Union.

In 1987, Agin was awarded the Post-Doctoral Fellowship in Communicative Diversity in Multicultural Populations at Howard University in Washington, D.C.

She was the voice specialist on the faculty of the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association Con-

ference on "Teaching Cultural Diversity Within the Profession Education Curriculum." Her co-authored "Guide to Pronunciation of Asian Names" was published in August 1992.

She has been a member of the National Institute on Deafness and Other Communication Disorders, Voice and Voice Disorders Experts Panel, and Research Planning Panel for Minority Persons. In Spring 1993, Spring 1994 and Communicative Disorders of the Sackler School of Medicine at Tel Aviv University and Visiting Professor in the Department of Orthodontics in the School of Dental Medicine at Tel Aviv University.

Agin served as Director of the International Students Program of the California State University System for 1995-96 at Hebrew University in Jerusalem, Israel. Her book chapter titled "Pediatric Voice Therapy in Culturally Diverse Populations" is in print.

As you can see Agin has a very healthy past and present, and per-

haps one might think she could be stuffy or all business, but let me tell you, this wonderful woman is warm and friendly, and she is also a singer and an accomplished violinist. Welcome to the neighborhood Agin.

Groundhog/Job Shadow Day

On Feb. 2, 2000, America's Promise, The national School-to-Work Opportunities Office, Junior Achievement and the American Society of Association Executives will celebrate GJSD.

On this day, half a million students across America will get an up-close look at how the skills they learn in school are put into action in the workplace by shadowing a mentor as he or she goes through a normal day on the job.

We hope you will support our high school community and participate in this important event that will pioneer at Albany High School this year with 60 seniors.

If you or your organization would like to become involved in this year's Groundhog/Job Shadow Day event

on Feb. 2, please call Marjorie Weingrow, AHS Career Development Consultant, at 524-6027 or email her at mweingrow@athotmail.com. Or you can access the National Groundhog Job Shadow Day Web site at www.jobshadow.org for more information.

Michael J. Doucet, D.D.S.

Dr. Doucet, who was featured a few months ago, at his new facility at 500 San Pablo Avenue, AHS had some excellent news.

The Accreditation Association has awarded him a three year certificate of accreditation For Ambulatory Health Care, Inc.

This is the highest level of recognition offered by the Chicago-based accrediting organization.

It means that Dr. Doucet and the facility, "is in substantial compliance with the accreditation committee's standards and that the committee has no reservations about Dr. Doucet's commitment to continue providing high-quality care and services as reflected in the standards."

Albany Chamber

By Roxanne Wiley

Congratulations to your Dr. Doucet!

Mixer News

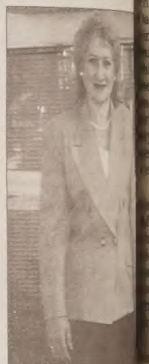
Our very last social function for the year will be at the Mechanics Bank at 801 San Pablo Ave., Albany, on Dec. 15, from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. There will be excellent noshing and all that goes with it.

When you come, bring some canned goods for our barrel that will go to a worthy cause. See you there.

Win the bike

It is not too late to get a slew of tickets for the Dec. 20 drawing of the Hard Rock bicycle.

They are \$1 each or 12 for \$10. Just give us a call at 525-1771 and we will deliver.



PICTURED ABOVE: Dr. Rhoda L. Agin at her office at 12221 Solano Ave.

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LOCAL CLINIC PARTICIPATING IN GLOBAL SCHIZOPHRENIA STUDY

Berkeley, July 28, 1999 - Berkeley Therapy Institute announced today that they have begun enrolling patients into a clinical trial of a compound being evaluated for the treatment of schizophrenia. The study, known as ILP 3004, is one of several in a worldwide development project known as the ReALiZe program.

The study at Berkeley Therapy Institute is part of a clinical development program to evaluate the efficacy and safety of an investigational drug in the treatment of patients with schizoaffective disorder or schizophrenia. Schizophrenia is a devastating condition, which affects nearly one percent of the world's population; schizophrenia is the most common and disabling of all major mental illnesses.

Schizophrenia impairs patients' cognitive functions causing positive symptoms such as hallucinations and delusions, and negative symptoms such as blunted affect and social withdrawal. The disease typically strikes in late adolescence, with the onset of gross abnormalities in perception and an inability to feel or express pleasure. The profound incidence of suicide among schizophrenics is a well-documented public health problem.

Dr. Robert Dolgoff, primary investigator for this clinical trial at Berkeley Therapy Institute, notes that "despite impressive advances in psychiatry, we still do not have optimal treatment for schizophrenia. As many as 20% to 30% of patients do not respond to, or get unpleasant side effects with, the medications that are currently available. Therefore, research into new modes of treatment is vital for patients battling this disease.

Patients participating in this ReALiZe study will receive free study medication or placebo and will be closely monitored on a regular basis by mental health professionals. To be eligible for participation in the trial, patients must be between the ages of 18 and 65, diagnosed with schizophrenia and exhibiting symptoms of the disease. In addition, participants must meet all inclusion criteria specified in the study protocol.

To obtain further information about this ReALiZe study, please contact Clinical Trial Coordinator Leigh Pruneau, RN, Ph.D., at (510) 841-8484, ext. 136.

The Arlington Community Church cordially invites you to the

New Year's Eve Dinner Dance

TURN OF THE CENTURY MASQUERADE BALL

Featuring music by the Blue Daddies

Child and infant care available

For reservations call (510) 526-9146. Paid reservations before Dec. 1st cost \$20-\$45 with group & senior discounts

Strawberry Creek Downtown COMMUNITY WORKSHOPS

The City of Berkeley will hold two community workshops to discuss the recently completed "Data Collection Study to Daylight Strawberry Creek in the Downtown Area." The purpose of this study is to provide a logical framework within which to evaluate the options for daylighting Strawberry Creek in Downtown Berkeley. The study does not specifically propose or eliminate any options, but does provide data and some analysis to inform the community dialogue and to assist the City Council in determining if and how to proceed with this project.

The same information will be covered at each workshop. Please attend one of the following workshops.

WORKSHOP #1

Wednesday, December 1, 1999 • 6:30 PM - 9:15 PM

North Berkeley Senior Center, 1901 Hearst Avenue Berkeley, CA 94704

WORKSHOP #2

Saturday, December 4, 1999 • 10:00 AM - 12:45 AM

North Berkeley Senior Center, 1901 Hearst Avenue Berkeley, CA 94704

Copies of the study are available at each branch of the Berkeley Public Library. A summary of the report is on the City's website at www.ci.berkeley.ca.us

For additional information, please contact: Deborah Chemin, Project Manager City of Berkeley Office of Capital Projects (510) 665-7554 dec2@berkeley.ca.us TDD: (510) 644-6915

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

The Journal

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Kensington issues aired at town hall session

Emergency response, West County's role in suburban sprawl among topics

By J.R. Deaton

EL CERRITO—Nearly 90 people attended the Kensington Improvement Club's annual town hall meeting last week in the Kensington school auditorium. At the meeting were state Sen. Don Perata, D-Oakland, Contra Costa Supervisor John G. Gattuso, Kensington Chief of Police Gary Garfield, El Cerrito/Kensington Fire Chief Mark Scott and other civic leaders. Each made short speeches and then answered written questions from the audience. A wide range of topics was discussed, including the Kensington Park fund, rising drive, urban limit lines, rising salaries and the problem of single homes on small Kensington lots. Talking about the state's education system, Perata said he wants to raise the starting pay of teachers to the same level of starting police officers and firefighters. "I believe that we are going to value public service, we have to value it equally," Perata said. "All of these men and women make fundamental contributions to the whole health of our com-



STATE SEN. DON PERATA speaks at the Kensington meeting.

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Local author pens a tale of West Africa and America

By J.R. Deaton

EL CERRITO—David Paul Oddoye had a story to tell, and his new novel "The Return" is it. Set in the present day Bay Area and West Africa, it's a story that interweaves modern American business and family concerns with African culture, myth and folklore. The Ghanaian-born Oddoye, now an El Cerrito resident, weaves the two cultures into a story that is, for the most part, both entertaining and educational.

For years the wealthy Goldsmith family has heard from patriarch Philip about their ancestor Prince Dadsenroja and the ancient African kingdom of Azanta. Philip insists it's true, but his children and grandchildren hear his tales as entertainment and myth. It is a story of gold, deception and jealous treachery. Prince Dadsenroja is sold into slavery and shipped to America, but his beloved and new queen vows his return.

Generations later, Jason Goldsmith, Philip's son, is the wealthy African American chairman and chief executive of Goldsmith Industries. Goldsmith Industries is a multinational aerospace engineering and computer networking and software engineering company based in San Francisco.

Industrial espionage, national rivalries and plot twists result in Goldsmith's private jet airplane crash landing in West Africa during a business trip. All four people aboard the jet survive, but they are soon captured by natives and taken to a remote city in the jungle. It is eventually discovered that the survivors are in the ancient kingdom of Azanta and that Goldsmith is the direct descendant and rightful heir of Prince Dadsenroja.

The ruling priest class in modern day Azanta, however, does not want to give up its power, authority and privilege. The priests, led by Lord

Ason, plan to kill the Americans, who are held prisoner and guarded by the fearsome Kumba Guard.

With courage and daring, Goldsmith leads an escape that eventually results in a safe return home for him and his compatriots. He then returns in force to Azanta to claim his rightful crown and kingship.

The 47-year-old Oddoye said his first novel is an attempt to educate people "about Africa and about the positivities in connection with African-Americans." He also said the story "highlights how people can rise above adversities and still be able to be successful." His novel uses names and mythology familiar to modern-day West Africans.

Oddoye came to the United States 20 years ago and has lived in El Cerrito since 1980.

He runs his own company that markets African textiles, but has hopes to make it as a full-time writer. "It's not a hobby," Oddoye said. "With this novel, this becomes my primary occupation now." He is planning a sequel to "The Return" that will cover the events that happen to Prince Dadsenroja after he is put on the slave ship.

Throughout Oddoye's novel are footnotes explaining the African terms and customs used in the story. The reader learns about such things as Fontom from drums and Atentenben horns and Kente cloth. By the end of the novel, the reader is fa-



DAVID ODDOYE'S book, 'The Return,' is an action-adventure thriller set at the Berkeley marina with ties to West African ancestry and culture.

miliar with at least some aspects of West African culture.

At times Oddoye's writing becomes too didactic. For example, when the Americans have escaped the jungle and are entering the modern African city of Yamasuko, they take time to engage in erudite discussion about deficiencies of the modern American media and education system. It just doesn't seem realistic that they would be discussing such matters at that time.

Overall, however, time spent with Oddoye's novel is well worth it. The African tales are fascinating and the footnoted African words used

throughout the book give the reader unique perspectives. And it somehow feels right that an African-American tale has African and African-American heroes, and Tarzan is nowhere in sight.

David Paul Oddoye's "The Return" is available in bookstores and locally at M.C. Newburn Books in Albany and at Marcus Book Stores in Oakland and San Francisco. It is also available on-line at Amazon.com.

Study: high fire danger at Wildcat Canyon

By J.R. Deaton

EL CERRITO—A new computer-assisted study confirms what local firefighters have known for years—Wildcat Canyon along El Cerrito's eastern border represents a fire threat to the city. Interim Fire Chief Mark Scott said the fuel modeling study, commissioned by the East Bay Regional Park Service and presented by consultants at last week's City Council meeting, "validated" what fire professionals have long known. "We're here tonight to tell you that it will burn," Scott told the council and the public at the meeting.

In his report to the council, Scott said "no action is required at this time," but added the findings may "suggest a future focus for public safety efforts."

The need for fuel breaks between park and urban lands was emphasized. Scott told the council that a "partnership" between El Cerrito and the park district is needed for fire safety. Scott said a fire starting at the bottom of the canyon would take about a half hour to reach the top of the ridge.

Using a slide show and computer graphics, councilmembers were shown how fires would likely burn under various conditions. The study used aerial photography of the canyon and took into account such things as geography, soils, vegetation, winds and weather conditions.

Councilman Norman La Force said cities could use the information

from the computer modeling to identify areas where a fire is most likely to enter their residential areas. He said the cities may want to require, if legal to do so, extra protection on the houses in those areas. La Force also said the information could be used to make sure fire stations and fire vehicles are built and positioned in the right places.

In his report to the City Council, Scott said the new findings are significant because they confirm the "Wildcat Canyon fire starts are very dangerous to El Cerrito and Kensington safety and under certain conditions, unstoppable." He said the findings confirm the fact that the city's fire prevention efforts "will only be successful if there is an adequate fuel break between park land and the urban edge."

Scott said that a fire would be fought at the top of the ridge and would be "an eminently fightable fire" with adequate water, resources and "defensible space."

He said the fire front would be relatively narrow and that the slope of Wildcat Canyon is relatively uniform. "It's a little bit different condition than you had in the Oakland hills where you had canyons running every which way," Scott told the council.

The Fire Department and the Maintenance and Engineering Department will be working with park district staff and the new information from the computer modeling studies to enhance fire protection efforts, Scott said.

IN BRIEF

'Fantasy in the Woods'

Children of all ages will have the chance to sip hot cider and cocoa, stars and twinkling lights sparkling in their eyes as they ride the carousel this season at the Tilden Park merry-go-round.

"Fantasy In The Woods," an evening celebration from Nov. 26 up to Christmas Eve, will illuminate the hills with lights and decorations designed in part by Mary Engelbreit, creator of "The Queen of Everything," "Princess of Quite a Lot," and other memorable tales. Theme trees will feature gingerbread folk, snowmen, reindeer, and even a Mardi Gras Frog, as well other innovative ideas.

At 6:30 p.m., every evening children will gather together in jackets and mufflers and listen to special holiday tales during story time. Hours are from 5:30-8:30 p.m. Many of the decorations that adorn trees during "Fantasy In The Woods," will be on sale for those interested. Details: 524-6773.

Creativity and children

EL CERRITO—Nationally acclaimed

child development expert and author, Bev Bos, will lead a creative interactive workshop about creative environments called "How Children Grow" on Wednesday, Dec. 1, 7-9 p.m. at the El Cerrito Community Center, 7007 Mooser Lane (at Ashbury), El Cerrito.

Participants will learn about Bos' philosophy about the creative lives of children. She will share songs, books and activities that encourage creativity, as well as ideas on how to establish creative environments at home and in preschools.

Bos is the author of three books on creativity for young children: "Don't Move The Muffin Tins," "Before The Basics," and "Together We Are Better." For over 30 years, Bos has been the director of the Roseville Community Preschool, which was featured on ABC's "20/20" as an example of an ideal preschool program. This event benefits El Cerrito Preschool Cooperative, a nonprofit parent cooperative which is Contra Costa County's oldest preschool.

Tickets are \$15 per person, with group discounts available. The event is adults only and seating is limited. For tickets and information, call 526-1916.

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Opinion

MAYOR'S VIEWPOINT

Progress report on financing the El Cerrito Swim Center

By Gina Brusatori

On Nov. 22, the City Council introduced an ordinance to place a special tax on the March 7, 2000 ballot. The tax will pay for the renovation and reconstruction of the El Cerrito Swim Center, rehabilitating the Canyon Trail clubhouse and performing access and restroom renovations to the Harding, Huber and Poinsett clubhouses.

The City Council, which will include the two newly elected council members, Janet Abelson and Kathie Perka, will meet at 8 p.m. on Monday, Nov. 29 to pass this ordinance and place it on the March ballot. The public is invited to attend.

The ordinance will include language in the ballot measure that I strongly advocate because it establishes an important new principal to fund maintenance and capital improvements of city facilities over the long term.

For the duration of the tax, the City Council shall establish a dedicated maintenance and capital replacement fund financed each fiscal year by the amount the revenues from the real property transfer tax exceeds the sum of \$250,000. The \$250,000 figure shall be adjusted every five years by the Bay Area Consumer Price Index. In funding the dedicated fund, the City Council may utilize monies from any source of funds available including the sales tax, user fees, and so forth.

The additional language achieves several goals. It confirms to voters that if they pass the March ballot measure, the city will spend money to maintain and improve our city-owned facilities besides the Swim Center and park projects listed above. Voters will effectively stop the decades long trend of deferring maintenance and capital expenditures.

El Cerrito voters are eager to improve our existing facilities and protect our investment in new facilities through regular maintenance. The new language gives us the opportunity to address our play fields, public safety building and streets as well as other projects such as curb cuts for disabled access and increased tree maintenance.

The additional language benefits our city workers. The \$250,000 base figure will be adjusted periodically for inflation, which helps us continue to deliver our current level of services. Many sources of revenue coming on line will more than offset funds that will be dedicated to maintenance and capital improvements in the future. New sources include about \$150,000 in sales taxes from Del Norte Marketplace (Walgreens, Staples and PepBoys), about \$900,000 in Redevelopment Agency debt payments to the city, and over \$500,000 anticipated from the El Cerrito Plaza revitalization efforts.

Maintenance and capital improvement funds will help us provide safe, functional and attractive work environments for our city workers at sites including the public safety building and childcare centers. We not only need to fix leaky

roofs, but also upgrade many of our 30- to 40-year-old facilities. As the experience of our schools has shown, when facilities are in good repair, adults and children benefit enormously.

Ordinance details

Besides the additional language, I wanted to share highlights of the ordinance. Its structure closely follows what I had favored in my recent Mayor's Viewpoint article and represents the collective wisdom of the community expressed during the past few months. I believe that the tax, with the additional language noted above, is widely acceptable and can achieve the required two-thirds voter approval to pass.

The tax will provide \$5.3 million in net proceeds to cover \$4.9 million to rebuild the 37-year-old swim center including the two existing pools, new locker rooms, new pump room and small meeting room in the adjacent community center. Another \$400,000 will fund several park projects including the Canyon Trail clubhouse that has been closed for 2 years due to structural problems. Residents and city staff alike will thus be able to enjoy attractive and functionally improved facilities that meet current health and safety codes.

The tax will have a 20-year term. This lowers the annual tax payment and spreads the cost of the swim center and park improvements over those who purchase homes or other property over the next 20 years, not just our existing property owners. Property owners will pay for the projects as they benefit from them.

The special tax will cost every homeowner about \$58 per year. The tax is equitable because we will levy a parcel tax instead of an ad valorem tax based on a property's assessed value. Newer residents, regardless of what part of the city they live, will not have to pay a tax that is many times larger than that paid by long-time residents, especially those who purchased their homes prior to Prop. 13. Most residents consider the swim center a focal point in defining their "quality of life" in El Cerrito and all would benefit from the new swim center.

The ballot measure will include special provisions for senior citizens, blind or disabled property owners under various State of California programs.

Fundraising, grants and contributions will be encouraged to reduce the amount or term of the tax, but we will not require minimum levels given the timing of the ballot measure.

The swim center and clubhouses will have their own dedicated fund for maintenance and future reconstruction financed through user fees, maintenance cost savings (such as from a more energy-efficient heating system), or other sources of revenue.

Let's join together and address our near-term need to finance the swim center and parks and establish a long-term plan to finance our many other capital improvements and maintenance needs.

MARTHA STEWART THE DAY AFTER THANKSGIVING

NOT SURE WHAT TO DO WITH THOSE THANKSGIVING LEFTOVERS? I'VE MADE A LOVELY TURKEY-LIVER PENDANT ACCENTED BY VIVID RED NEW ENGLAND CRANBERRIES.



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Club Garden-of-the-Month contest

On Feb. 1, 2000, the El Cerrito Garden Club will announce its first Garden-of-the-Month contest winners. There will be three winners that month, and you could be one of them! The object of the contest is to inspire all of us El Cerrito residents to take a second look at our gardens, or whatever space we have, to see what we can do to beautify it.

The Sundar Shadi Garden contest will occur six times a year, sometimes two months at a stretch: February-March, April-May, June, July, August, and September-October. We are asking you to nominate yourself anonymously. When you subsequently receive a letter from the Garden Club we will ask you to choose the months you would like to be considered for. The more the better.

Is your problem that your garden isn't big or fancy, or maybe you live in an apartment with only a dream of having a yard? This contest is still for you, too!

There are three categories of gardens in this contest:

- 1) Large gardens, for those of us fortunate enough to have one.
- 2) Medium gardens: Any gardens between large size and small size. Read on.
- 3) Small gardens: These are for tiny gardens, if that is all the space you have. Small gardens also include apartment dwellers, condominium dwellers, commercial gardens, even fences. In other words, it answers the question "How interesting did you make use of the little space that you have?" You may have an interesting fence, or beautiful flower pots outside your door, or perhaps a storefront.

Since the total number of possible winners comes to 18 per year, your chances of having one of the beautiful hand-painted signs (designed and painted by Thelma Gillespie, president of the El Cerrito Art Association) accompanying your plants in your yard are probably quite good.

We would be delighted if you would nominate your own garden, and anyone else's. You can submit the needed information to the El Cerrito Garden Club, P.O. Box 203, El Cerrito, CA 94530, or simpler yet you can call Vera Shadi's voice mail at 869-3977 and leave the address(es) and nearest cross street so we can locate it easily (no name is needed). Or you can e-mail me at verashadi@aol.com. Just nominate a garden and we'll figure out the category.

There are only two rules: 1) Since the object of the contest is to beautify the city for all of us, the garden must be visible from the street. 2) El Cerrito Garden Club members will not be eligible.

Now, put this paper down, go and give me a call (869-3977), and run outside and start planning your garden! You can do it!

Vera Shadi
Chair Sundar Shadi Garden Contest
Committee El Cerrito Garden Club

Separating the men from the boys

We can't make up our minds and be consistent — are minors adults or children?

An 11-year-old boy prosecuted as an adult? Are we nuts? He is a kid!

Can't have sex until you are 18, but your body is ready when you are 15. Why does an 18-year-old girl get arrested for having sex with a 17-year-old boy?

Why can we vote at 18, but we can't drink until we are 21? Doesn't it take more maturity to vote than it does to drink?

We can sign a contract or get married at 18, but we can't drink until we are 21. Why?

We are mature enough to drive when we are 15, but we don't trust kids until they are 16, and then they have numerous restrictions.

When you do not trust kids and give them responsibility, they will remain kids. Because we have stupid laws, kids must break laws because they are too old for these restrictions.

We put more and more kids in jail. Let's make new reasonable laws!

Smoke at 15.
Drink at 18.
Drive at 15.
Vote at 18.
Married at 18.
Contract at 18.
Responsible and prosecuted as an adult at 18.
Sidney Steinhilber

Promoting local candidacies

Term limits and a large abundance of issues has created a greater awareness of local office-holders, local measures and political parties.

Local office-holders especially, know the diligence needed to protect the local property taxes from raids by state office-holders.

Local office-holders and candidates for local office are generally tuned-in and have the best ability to tune up county political parties and the electorate each serves, on a year and year-out basis.

Papers, without cost, can be taken out at County Elections Department between now and Dec. 10, for all member positions of all local political parties. Yes, a person may be a candidate for County Supervisor and also appear on the "same ballot" as a candidate for a County Central Committee Member position.

A local elected office-holder who is not up for election, can appear as a candidate in County Central Committee March 7, on a ballot distributed within the whole Supervisor District for all voters, within his/her political party. Of course the same candidacy is available for each voter who is affiliated with a political party, who completes the necessary paperwork.

John D. Dumas

Nation's past and its promise found in its national parks

By Tom Kiernan

PRESIDENT, NATIONAL PARKS AND CONSERVATION ASSOCIATION

Thanksgiving Day marks an occasion not only for giving thanks but also for looking back at the times that shaped America's diverse cultures into a nation. This past thrives in the National Park System, which has preserved scores of historic sites.

You may learn something new about your American roots at those sites. Consider, for example, the first Thanksgiving. It took place not at Plymouth, Massachusetts, as many of us might think, but near Jamestown, Virginia, where the first permanent English colony was established

on the banks of the James River in 1607. Remains of that village survive today at Jamestown National Historic Site. Near there, on Dec. 4, 1619, newly arrived settlers gathered on the river bank and celebrated the New World's first Thanksgiving ceremony, fully two years before the Pilgrims established the tradition.

As the National Park System also shows, the settlers of Jamestown were New World latecomers compared to the Spanish and French. The Spanish built the first permanent European settlements in North America, beginning in 1565 with St. Augustine, Florida. There you can still visit a 17th century Spanish

fort at Castillo de San Marcos National Monument. French Huguenots nearly tied the Spanish for first place, settling at about the same time at a site now memorialized in Jacksonville, Florida, at Fort Caroline National Memorial.

Thanks to the National Park System, we can enjoy the full spectrum of human life in America. Chaco Culture National Historical Park in New Mexico, for example, features 13 major cliff dwellings that represent the height of Pueblo culture, dating back more than 1,000 years. In Hawaii, Kaloko-Honokohau National Historical Park protects sites where Hawaiian villages stood before European contact.

Thanks also to the National Park System, this winter you can confront personally the tribulations that tested the will of General George Washington and the Continental Army while in their 1777-8 winter quarters, still preserved at Valley Forge National Historical Park, in Pennsylvania. And at Colonial National Historical Park you can stroll the Yorktown, Virginia battlefield where the British surrendered in 1781, ending the American Revolutionary War.

The park system also takes you into the lives of historic figures who made America great. Booker T. Washington National Monument, near Hardy, Virginia, features the plantation where

Washington was born a slave in 1856 and from which he would grow to be an orator and educator and the founder of the Tuskegee Institute in Alabama. Similarly, Edison National Historic Site preserves the home of Thomas A. Edison in West Orange, New Jersey, where he invented the phonograph and the movie camera.

Our nation's diverse history is nowhere better encountered than in the National Park System. The protected historic sites speak to us across the years, telling us to remember and to revere. We can show reverence by providing needed care for these sites, many of which suffer from lack of proper upkeep. Chaco, for exam-

ple, shows the wear of the past and will need increased protection to ensure its survival. Let your congressional delegation know how you feel about preserving America's heritage. It's a demonstrable thanks to the memories of the past, we can help to provide memories for generations of the future.

Tom Kiernan is the president of the National Parks and Conservation Association (NPCA), America's only nonprofit, nonpartisan organization dedicated to protecting and enhancing the U.S. National Park System. Contact NPCA at 202-223-4272 or the Web at <http://www.nps.gov>

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"...were it left to me to decide whether we should have a government without newspapers, or newspapers without a government, I should not hesitate a moment to prefer the latter."

— Thomas Jefferson, 1787

Officer

FROM PAGE A1

community, and they should be a positive asset rather than a perceived liability."

Opponents of the campus officer, called a school resource officer (SRO), argued it is a drastic step for a small community without a major crime problem. Some said they would have an easier time accepting an unarmed officer. Others said the money should go toward campus counselors or psychologists rather than police.

But proponents, including district superintendent Gary Mills, and Albany High School principal Gloria Galindo, said the officer could provide valuable services to teen-agers. The officer, they said, would be on hand should problems arise and would help deter crime.

Tuesday's vote accepted a three-

year, \$125,000 federal Department of Justice grant covering a little more than half of the officer's salary. The remainder will be split between the district and the city.

The district would kick in about \$12,000 a year. The city's share is roughly \$18,000 a year.

Though the SRO would be a member of the city police force, the duties would be defined by the district.

Many school districts statewide are deciding to staff campuses with armed police officers, said Marcus Nieto, a researcher with the California Research Bureau, a division of the state library. As of the spring, there were about 930 SROs statewide, he said.

Many large districts, such as West Contra Costa Unified, have police forces. Others, including Hayward and Castro Valley, use city police officers or county sheriff's deputies on campus.

Issues

FROM PAGE A5

communities and I think we ought to treat them in the same way."

Gioia talked about a variety of topics including urban limit lines and oversized new homes in Kensington. "The board of supervisors, this year, is undergoing a very comprehensive review of our urban limit line," Gioia said. "At the same time we talk about how we control suburban sprawl and how we grow in a smart way—we need to link that to how we revitalize the older parts of this county—and that really means West Contra Costa County."

Talking about the question of what he called "monster homes" in Kensington, Gioia said any new ordinances to restrict large homes that are out of scale or out of character with the neighborhood must be based on objective criteria.

Gioia noted that Kensington already has a "small lot ordinance," but said that law doesn't deal with the problem completely. He said there has been talk about an ordinance based on floor area ratio.

"If there's public support for this, I'll be willing to work with you to help find a solution on the county level," Gioia said. "Frankly, you need to have to have some objective standards for that work."

Garfie discussed the community's renewed reserve police officer program and new senior program. The senior program, among other things, provides seniors and their families with information about community services.

"It creates a system that allows us to assess both physical and psychological needs of older adults," Garfie said.

Reviewing Kensington's crime statistics from last year, Garfield noted that auto thefts are up by 37 percent, but assaults are down 11 percent. "Our burglaries have dropped 64 percent—those are residential burglaries; our auto burglaries are down 38 percent; our petty thefts are down 35 percent and our grand thefts are down 54 percent," Garfield reported to applause from the audience.

Responding to a question from the audience, Garfield said his officers have written about 540 traffic tickets so far this year.

Scott talked about such matters as fire safety and ambulance response times. In answer to a question about ambulance responses, Scott noted that in Kensington "about half of our responses have extended over 10 minutes." The ambulance company does meet its response time county-wide, Scott said, "but we do have a problem in Kensington." Scott said his department is working with the county emergency medical services and the ambulance company "to get those response times down." He said there has been "quite a bit of improvement" in the last couple of months.

Other speakers at the meeting included Joan Gallegos of the Kensington Police Protection and Community Services District, James Carman of the Kensington Municipal Advisory Council and Don Dommer, chairman of the Fire Protection District Board.

The Kensington Improvement Club was formed in 1921 to foster the welfare of the unincorporated community. It does such things as act as liaison with the county supervisors, and monitors the Police Protection and Community Services District Board and the Fire Protection District Board. The club also makes recommendations on local ballot issues, sponsors town hall meetings, and maintains the community kiosk and sign board.

FDA holding hearings about genetic engineering

By James Carter

Responding to growing concerns about the use of genetically engineered crops, a handful of Bay Area consumers will be allowed to address such issues during a hearing in Oakland sponsored by the Food and Drug Administration Dec. 13.

Currently, growers and manufacturers of products from corn flakes to soy milk are not required to reveal if such items contain genetically modified crops.

"The public will be asked whether this policy should be modified," says a statement issued by the FDA.

"I think the FDA are beginning to realize it's about time that they do something," said Ellen Hickey, director of research at Pesticide Action Network. "There's a lot of pressure coming from many different directions about labeling. There are even some minor rumblings from the USDA about the need to label genetically en-

gineered food."

Eighty members of the public chosen on a "first-come, first serve" basis will address the FDA panel, according to Janey McDonald, public affairs specialist for federal agency in the Bay Area. During the hearings, held at the Elihu Harris State Building in Oakland, each speaker will be allotted two minutes to express views.

McDonald said the hearings will also include 280 members of an audience, also chosen on a first-come basis.

While views are exchanged inside, a coalition of 12 Bay Area organizations will sponsor a peaceful rally outside the meeting chambers to "give the public a chance to express our concerns about genetically engineered food," Hickey said.

"(The) FDA's food regulatory system relies on the best science available to protect the public," according to FDA Commissioner Jane E. Henney. "Our scientists are not aware of

any reason to question the safety or currently market foods produced through bioengineering.

"Nevertheless, as a science-based agency, FDA will consider any valid scientific information that suggests the agency should reevaluate its process for overseeing the safety of these foods."

Hickey believes there is a basis for the FDA to reconsider its policy.

"In Europe, they're beyond labeling genetically engineered products," Hickey said. "There's essentially a moratorium there. Most major grocery stores won't sell GE foods and have a moratorium on growing such crops as well."

Though FDA policy does not currently target GE foods, it does require special labeling for such things "in certain circumstances."

According to the FDA, a "bioengineered food would need to be called by a different or modified name if its composition were significantly dif-

ferent from its conventionally grown counterpart."

"I think most consumers would agree we all have the right to know when the foods we eat are genetically engineered. They require irradiated food to be labeled and orange juice to say whether it is fresh or from a concentrate. Why wouldn't they require foods made with modified DNA to be labeled?"

"Even though the FDA does not allow time for everyone to speak, those with concerns about genetically engineered foods should join us in a peaceful rally at 1515 Clay St. from noon until 3 p.m., Dec. 13," Hickey said.

Groups participating in the rally include the Sierra Club, Pesticide Action Network, and the Berkeley Food Policy Council.

The Oakland hearing is one of three scheduled nationwide by the FDA. A hearing was held in Chicago and another is set in Washington, D.C.

Safety issues still cloud Gill Tract

By James Carter

ALBANY — Parents and residents recently asked UC-Berkeley Chancellor Charles Berdahl to ban the use of pesticides on the Gill Tract and to sign a "good neighbor" agreement guaranteeing just that.

The Gill Tract is a parcel of land bordered by Buchanan Street and San Pablo Avenue, just north of UC Village. It is owned by the university and managed by the College of Natural Resources.

Dorothea Dorenz, a parent with a child attending Ocean View Elementary School — which borders the Gill Tract — is spokeswoman for a group called the Albany Coalition for Environmental Health.

Members and supporters aim to stop the use of all pesticides at the Gill Tract, including an herbicide

called RoundUp.

"We understand people's concerns, and want to work with them," said Irene Hegarty, communication director for UC.

"RoundUp is a very common household product sold legally in Albany and Berkeley," Hegarty said. "It has few — if any — toxic effects and there is a great deal of scientific literature to support that."

Dorenz and other parents are concerned by reports suggesting glyphosate, the chemical weed killer in Roundup, is "acutely toxic to animals, including humans."

According to a report by the Northwest Coalition for Alternatives to Pesticides, RoundUp has been linked to number of ailments including lung dysfunction, erosion of the gastrointestinal tract, kidney damage, elevated blood pressure,

and damage to the larynx.

Roundup is manufactured by Monsanto Corporation.

"In the case of the Gill Tract, we use it only two to three times a year," Hegarty said. "We use it as little as possible and in a very controlled way. It's applied with a hand-held sprayer six inches from the ground. We don't use foggers or mixers to broadcast it, and it's applied only when there is no wind."

"Of course some people are concerned about toxins," she added. "All sorts of information is available on the Internet, some research verified and carefully done. Other information is just out there," she said, "and it's hard to counter every possible source of information that people find."

Dorenz recently quoted a report issued by the Pesticide Education

Center she said claims "children's immune systems are more susceptible to toxic exposures than adults," due to their size, respiratory rate, and a less developed immune system.

"We urge the university to adopt the precautionary principle which states that if you do not have definitive proof that these toxins are safe for our children and community, that you will not use them," Dorenz said.

According to Hegarty, the university takes "every possible precaution" to protect the public health. "The campus has an environmental and safety department which independently reviews all on and off-campus operations," she said. "We also want to have a good neighbor policy, though ours might be different than theirs."

IN BRIEF

Senior Winter Ball

RICHMOND — The city will hold its Gala Millennium Senior Winter Ball on Saturday, Dec. 11 from 7-11 p.m. in the Richmond Memorial Auditorium, 2544 Barrett Ave. The ball is co-sponsored by the

Richmond Commission on Aging and the Richmond Recreation and Parks Department to celebrate the historic past and cultural diversity of West County. This not-for-profit social event is supported by our business community, making the cost of admission a very affordable \$10 per

person.

Frankie James and his 17-piece Big Swing Band will play all the old favorites of the 1940's for your listening and dancing pleasure. Free delicious hors d'oeuvres will be served and a no-host bar will be provided by the Malvern/Wilson Alumni

Association.

Tickets are available at Richmond Chamber of Commerce, 3925 Macdonald Ave.; Richmond Senior Center, 2525 Macdonald Ave.; and San Pablo Senior Center, 1934 Church Lane.

To reserve a table for 10 people call Ruth Thoms at 307-8086.

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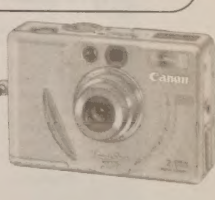
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rebate
on a total purchase
of \$2000 - \$3000.

\$350
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on a total purchase
of \$3000 - \$5000.

\$500
rebate
on a total purchase
of \$5000 or more.

PLEASE VISIT US FOR FULL DETAILS

Communicate!



FREE***

COMPACT PCS PHONE

Packed with features, this phone gives you up to 5 hours talktime and 9 days standby time. Also features a clock, three entertaining games, 35 ring tones, and optional color faceplates. In-store activation required. See sales counselor for details. PBELLNOKIA190

NOKIA

Pacific Bell
Pure Digital PCS

1,000 FREE
night and
weekend
minutes***

FREE Auto Safety
Package with any
wireless phone
(\$120 value)

1 FULL YEAR AUTO CLUB
MEMBERSHIP
AND
AUTO SAFETY KIT

- Fix-a-Flat, flare, and first-aid kit
- Heavy-duty jumper cables
- Flashlight and more



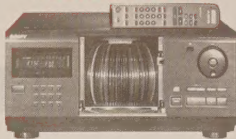
69⁹⁹

900 MHZ CORDLESS PHONE WITH SPEAKERPHONE

Always stay in touch with the convenience of dual keypads and headset jack. You can continue with what you were doing, you have a choice, talk from the handset, the base speakerphone, or connect a headset for hands-free operation. Features a lighted handset keypad. KXTCT1450-B

Panasonic

Home Audio



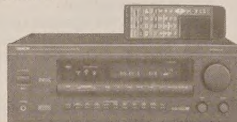
199⁹⁹

PRICE BEFORE REBATE

200-CD JUKEBOX

Using an easy-to-use filing system, this changer has a host of advanced features that help you instantly find the disc you want from among 200 CDs. It will even ensure that your discs don't get mixed up with the kids' singing dinosaur CD. CDCPC225

SONY



349⁹⁹

PRICE BEFORE REBATE

A MUSIC-MINDED DOLBY® DIGITAL RECEIVER

Most home theater receivers only play stereo music out of two speakers. Using Denon's Dynamic Discrete Surround Circuits, this one delivers big theater sound while producing music from all five speakers. Features 70 watts x 5 channels of power. AVR1700

DENON



49⁹⁹

FIT ANYWHERE BOOKSHELF SPEAKER

Though made for small spaces, these speakers can still bring the big sound. Created for audiophiles on a budget, they're ideal for use with mini systems and can also be used as home theater surround speakers. CR4BLACK

BostonAcoustics

Mini Systems



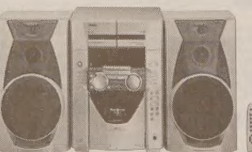
149⁹⁹

PRICE BEFORE REBATE

ULTRA-MICRO CD SYSTEM - DESKTOP STRESS RELIEF

Among the smallest systems with both a CD player and a cassette deck, this one is a great choice for crowded cubicles or wherever space is limited. XRM133

aiaa



299⁹⁹

PRICE BEFORE REBATE

50-CD ALL NIGHT PARTY SYSTEM

Storing up to 50 discs, this system has one of the highest CD capacities found on any mini sound system. Add 160 watts of total power and a dual cassette deck and you've got one serious music system. MHCMI1

SONY

CONCORD (925) 676-9300
1280A Willow Pass Rd.
Corte Madera (415) 924-7007
301 Corte Madera Town Center
DUBLIN (925) 833-9400
6705 Ardenwood Plaza Rd.
EMERYVILLE (510) 547-6300
5800 Christie Ave.
FAIRFIELD (707) 428-4800
1350 Gateway Blvd.
FRESNO (559) 222-0200
61 East Shaw Ave.

HAYWARD (510) 887-7600
664 Southland Mall
MILPITAS (408) 935-0400
McCarthy Ranch Market Place
MODESTO (209) 571-1700
3900 Silk Rd.
E. PALO ALTO (650) 330-2600
1731 E. Bayshore Blvd.
PINOLE (510) 262-6670
Pinole Vista Shopping Center
1220 Fitzgerald Ave.

RENO (775) 829-0100
4979 S. Virginia St.
SACRAMENTO
ARDENWAY (916) 648-9109
2121 Arden Way
FLORENCE HALL (916) 395-6700
7020 Stockton Blvd.
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5500 Sunrise Blvd.
SAN FRANCISCO
VAN NESS AT BUSH (415) 775-9323
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THE STONETOWN GALLERIA
(415) 731-3700
3201 20th Ave.
GEARY BLVD. (415) 202-0220
Geary Blvd. & Masonic
SAN JOSE
BLOSSOM HILL (408) 361-0300
886 Blossom Hill Rd.
EASTRIDGE/EVERGREEN (408) 274-1062
1960 Tully Road
SAN MATEO (650) 574-5100
41 West Hillside Blvd.

SANTA CLARA
3149 San Antonio Ave.
SANTA ROSA (707) 535-1000
3855 Santa Rosa Ave.
SERRAVENTE (916) 446-1000
446 Serranville Circle
STOCKTON (209) 944-1000
646 West Riverway
SUNNYVALE (415) 944-1000
15470 Canyon Blvd.
WALNUT CREEK (925) 3044
3044 Power Drive

FREE Installation on all car audio decks over \$149*



179⁹⁹

FREE INSTALL. PRICE BEFORE REBATE

CD RECEIVER WITH BUILT-IN EQUALIZER

From rap and rock to cool jazz, this CD deck has a built-in equalizer with six settings that give you DJ-like control over the sound of your music. Also features 45 watts x 4 power and a detachable face. DEHP1000

Pioneer



259⁹⁹

FREE INSTALL. PRICE BEFORE REBATE

FULLY LOADED CD RECEIVER

From Sony's top line of high performance products, this "Mobile ES" deck packs 40 watts x 4 power, CD/MD changer control, and dual 4-volt pre-amp outputs that help minimize distortion when used with an external amp. CDXC5850

SONY



89⁹⁹

6" X 9" 3-WAY CAR SPEAKERS

A high performance upgrade or replacement for factory speakers, these 3-way models use three specialized driver elements to deliver precision mobile sound from sparkling highs to deep lows. KFC6976

KENWOOD



99⁹⁹

FREE SPIRIT CD BOOMBOX

Unbound by cords, boomboxes are the free spirits of the electronics. This one captures this spirit with a CD player, cassette deck, digital AM/FM tuner, and remote control. AZ140717

PHILIPS



79⁹⁹

ROAD TRIP CD PLAYER WITH CAR KIT

With a complete car kit, this CD player plugs into your car cassette deck to give you quality sound at home or on the road. Using 40-second anti-shock memory, it keeps music skip-free over rough terrain. SL5361C

Panasonic

Camcorders



299⁹⁹

VHS-C 5-HEAD CAMCORDER WITH 16X OPTICAL 50X DIGITAL ZOOM

The 50x digital hyper zoom brings up the most incredible shots into sharp focus. You can also attribute the digital picture to the Pro-Color 5 frame advance that helps to produce crisp, clear images. Picture stabilization ensures steady, clear images free from camera shake. CD-M1000 Spare 2-Hour Battery NP5000 for \$54*

JVC



349⁹⁹

Hi8M CAMCORDER WITH COLOR VIEWFINDER & 180X DIGITAL ZOOM

See a spectacular sunset the way it's meant to be seen. Hi8M video 180 recording and playback allows the picture information to be recorded resulting in more detail and clarity. 14 hours Stamina™ recording. Optional InfoLithium battery. Includes advanced color viewfinder, light and auto/manual focus. CCD7000 4-Hour Battery NPFS-50P

SONY



899⁹⁹

DIGITAL 8 CAMCORDER

Only years of Hi8 and Hi8M work with this camcorder. It features a 2.5" Active Matrix Color Screen that makes recording easy. Powerful 20x optical/360x digital zoom. The features seem endless: iV interface, NightShot™ low light capability, LaserLock™ wireless transmitter, and SteadyShot™ picture stabilization. DCRTR103

SONY



99⁹⁴

ULTRA-COMPACT 139mm ZOOM CAMERA

Enjoy sleek styling with the compact and the 38-90mm zoom lens. Features active infrared auto focus with lock and infinity lock, continuous red-eye reduction flash, and auto mode. MAXIMAZOOMING

SAMSUNG

**Come in to one of these stores and meet the
CIDCO representative and experience an
exciting MailStation demonstration.**

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 26 FROM 10 A.M. TO 2 P.M.
Fresno, Sunnyvale, Hayward, Dublin, Blossom Hill
SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 27 FROM 10 A.M. TO 2 P.M.
Geary, San Mateo WOW!, Concord, Walnut Creek, McCarthy Ranch, Tully Road
SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 28 FROM 1 P.M. TO 5 P.M.
Stonestown, East Palo Alto, Fairfield, Pinole, Emeryville, Santa Clara

Due to special circumstances, some items may be limited to stock on hand or limited to one per family at the discretion of the Manager. We reserve the right to limit quantities to ensure sufficient quantities for you, our customers.
Good Guys offer is good on purchases over \$39 made on approved credit on the Good Guys Preferred Customer credit card from 11/21 to 12/6/99. The Annual Percentage Rate (APR) may vary month to month. As of 11/1/99, the current APR is 22.65% (corresponding Monthly Rate of 1.89%). Minimum finance charge of \$30. Minimum monthly payments of 2% or \$10, whichever is greater, are required during the promotional period. Any purchase not paid in full within the promotional period will be subject to finance charges assessed from the date of purchase.
DIRECTV offers Local blackout rules apply. Offer not valid in the limited areas served by the members or affiliates of the National Rural Telecommunications cooperative. Limited-time offer for new DIRECTV residential subscriber who purchases a DIRECTV System from a participating retailer between 11/22/99 and 12/1/99, and subscribes to DIRECTV Total Choice programming (\$29.99/mo) by 1/2/00. NFL SUNDAY TICKET automatically continues each year as a special renewal rate, provided DIRECTV carries this service, unless subscriber calls to cancel prior to the start of the season. However, subscription activated under the last six weeks free offer will NOT renew automatically. Offer void where prohibited. Blackout restrictions apply. To receive NFL SUNDAY TICKET, the DIRECTV System receiver must be continuously connected to a land-based phone line. Programming, pricing, terms, and conditions subject to change. Hardware and programming sold separately. DIRECTV programming is provided in accordance with the terms and conditions of the DIRECTV Customer Agreement, a copy of which is provided with your first DIRECTV billing statement. "NFL," the NFL Shield and "NFL SUNDAY TICKET" are registered trademarks of the National Football League.

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*For typical installation on most cars, installation accessories, if necessary, are not included.
**Offer requires new service subscription and activation with a 1-year service agreement on eligible rate plans in San Francisco Bay region between 11/1/99 and 12/1/99. Not redeemable for cash or credit. Sales tax applies to full retail value of phone. Subject to credit approval. \$20 activation fee, \$150 termination fee. Deposit may be required. No in-network roaming charge (but California and Nevada networks) but airtime and long distance charges apply.
***1,000 free night and weekend minutes applies to rate plans \$29.99 and above. Night minutes are 14.7-8.01 per min. to 6:59 a.m. Weekend minutes are Saturday 12 a.m. to Sunday 11:59 p.m. Additional conditions apply. See store for details.

STORE HOURS

FRI-SAT 8AM-10PM

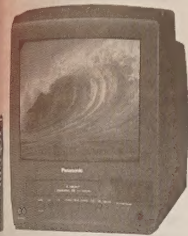
SUN 9AM-9PM

©1999 The Good Guys Company
Prices good through 11/28/99

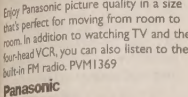
Color TVs



13" TV IS JUST THE RIGHT SIZE
It fits nearly anywhere and features a built-in sleep timer, front A/V inputs for quick camcorder or VCR connection, and a remote control. 4913LT
SYLVANIA



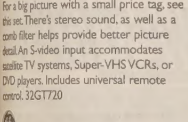
13" TV/VCR COMBO IS PORTABLE AND VERSATILE
Enjoy Panasonic picture quality in a size that's perfect for moving from room to room. In addition to watching TV and the four-head VCR, you can also listen to the built-in FM radio. PVM1369
Panasonic



13" TV/VCR COMBO IS PORTABLE AND VERSATILE
Enjoy Panasonic picture quality in a size that's perfect for moving from room to room. In addition to watching TV and the four-head VCR, you can also listen to the built-in FM radio. PVM1369
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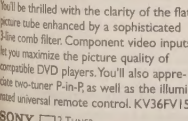
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Panasonic



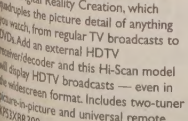
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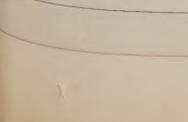
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Enjoy Panasonic picture quality in a size that's perfect for moving from room to room. In addition to watching TV and the four-head VCR, you can also listen to the built-in FM radio. PVM1369
Panasonic



219⁹⁹ **PRICE BEFORE REBATE**
19" STEREO TV HAS LOADS OF USEFUL FEATURES
You'll like the surround sound effect and SmartSound that keeps commercials from blaring. A color temperature control adjusts for your taste and there's a universal TV/VCR/Cable remote control. PS1966C
PHILIPS MAGNAVOX



299⁹⁹ **PRICE BEFORE REBATE**
27" STEREO TV HAS A SHARP PICTURE
And it features front A/V inputs for quickly connecting camcorders or video games, a built-in timer, and remote control, too. 27LS100
SHARP



949⁹⁹ **PRICE BEFORE REBATE**
36" SHOWS YOU WHAT'S ON AT A GLANCE
It's got Guide Plus+ that displays program listings for the next 48 hours right on screen. Plus there's picture-in-picture, a digital comb filter, and an illuminated universal remote. F36665
RCA **PICTURE IN PICTURE**



1999⁹⁹ **PRICE BEFORE REBATE**
50" CINEMA SERIES TV FEATURES MULTI-WINDOW
It can display still images from 9 different channels simultaneously to give you a multiple preview of what's on. 3D Y/C digital comb filter and digital focus provide a bright, sharp picture. Includes picture-in-picture, component video inputs, and a universal remote. TN50V71
TOSHIBA **2 TUNER** **PICTURE IN PICTURE**

VCR & DVD Players



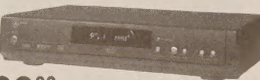
69⁹⁹ **FINAL CLEARANCE**
NEED ANOTHER VCR FOR THE BEDROOM?
Here's a good, basic VCR at an unheard-of price. Features automatic head cleaner and remote control. SE226G
Symphonic



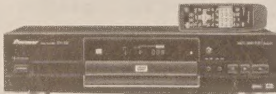
129⁹⁹ **PRICE BEFORE REBATE**
HI-FI STEREO VCR DOES 0 TO 120 IN 54 SECONDS
That's 120 minutes, not miles per hour, so it rewinds two-hour tapes in less than a minute. Hi-Fi stereo sound lets you enjoy Dolby Pro Logic surround sound from your compatible audio system. Four heads provide optimal picture quality at both standard and slow speeds. Includes a multi-brand remote control. HSU445
MTSUSHI



299⁹⁹ **PRICE BEFORE REBATE**
HI-FI STEREO VCR WITH VCR PLUS+ GOLD INSTANT PROGRAMMING
It automatically matches channels in your TV listings with those of your local cable system when you enter your zip code. Plus there's Hi-Fi stereo sound and four-head performance. SLV799HF
SONY



199⁹⁹ **PRICE BEFORE REBATE**
DVD PLAYER DELIVERS DIGITAL PICTURE & SOUND
Here's a brand-name player under \$200, just in time for the holidays. Use the Dolby Digital surround sound outputs for your compatible receiver and speakers. Or enjoy "virtual surround sound" through the speakers in your stereo TV. Plays CDs, too and includes a remote control. GEI105P
GE



299⁹⁹ **PRICE BEFORE REBATE**
DVD/CD PLAYER WITH SURROUND SOUND CAPABILITY
Connect your compatible audio receiver & speakers to enjoy sensational Dolby Digital or DTS surround sound. Component video outputs work with compatible TVs to deliver superb picture quality. DV525
Pioneer

6 free movies & 21 free rentals
FREE Pokemon DVD movie
with purchase of this Pioneer DVD player



499⁹⁹ **PRICE BEFORE REBATE**
DVD/CD PLAYER WITH BUILT-IN DOLBY DIGITAL DECODER
Connect this player to your Dolby Digital-ready receiver to enjoy terrific Dolby Digital surround sound. Also features DTS and component video outputs, jog/shuttle dials for easy operation, and an illuminated multi-brand remote control. DVP5550D
SONY

7 free movies & 36 free rentals

DIRECTV



99⁹⁹ **THIS COMPLETE SYSTEM MAKES IT EASY TO ENJOY DIRECTV**
This system can bring you over 200 channels of digital entertainment with a crystal clear picture and CD-quality sound. It includes the receiver, 18" satellite dish antenna, and a remote control. HSY5-E1131
HUGHES

Get 32 free premium movie channels
including HBO®, STARZ®, and SHOWTIME®. Offer ends Jan. 16, 2000. A value of over \$100. Just buy any DIRECTV System and subscribe to DIRECTV® Total Choice® programming. See details below, left.

Last 6 weeks of '99 NFL SUNDAY TICKET FREE
Just buy a DIRECTV System and subscribe to DIRECTV® Total Choice®.

• Up to 13 regular season games a Sunday
• A DIRECTV mini-dish exclusive
Offer ends Dec. 12 - ACT NOW! See details below, left.

Professional installation only \$99
SAVE \$100

Remote



169⁹⁹ **PRICE BEFORE REBATE**
TOUCH-SCREEN REMOTE - I CALL MINE "JEEVES"
Controlling up to twelve components, this universal remote is like a personal butler in charge of your home theater. It lets you make selections simply by touching the large backlit screen. RMAV2000
SONY

Connected Organizer



449⁹⁹ **BONUS PRICE BEFORE REBATE**
EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW IN THE PALM OF YOUR HAND
The Palm Vx™ organizer features faster data and increased memory. So it can handle more add-on applications as well as contracts, appointments, to-do's, email, and memos. Its advanced display features razor-sharp clarity and its lithium-ion batteries recharge in minutes and lasts up to one month. PALMVX
3Com

Free monogrammed leather case
By mail with purchase of any V Series organizer

No Down Payment
No Interest till 2001
\$399 minimum and minimum monthly payments required.
See details at left.

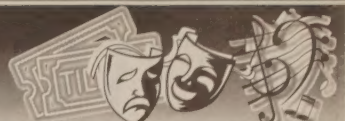
g!
good guys

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Dining & Entertainment

AN ADVERTISING FEATURE



Chevys

3400 Mariner Square
Alameda (510) 521-3768
Come join us at the first Chevys, located in Alameda. We serve the freshest food and the best atmosphere with great service and a fun atmosphere.

Garibaldi's on College

5356 College Ave., near Manilla, Oakland (510) 595-4000
The menu at Garibaldi's focuses on Mediterranean-style seafood, with tantalizing appetizers (baked scallops, scallop ceviche) to perfectly complement the main courses (grilled swordfish, salmon with scallops and prawns). The menu is fresh with saffron, aioli and orange are piled high, and a rich assortment of warm chocolate puddings, espresso ice cream and fresh nuts is enough to satisfy almost anyone. First-rate pizzas and tapas make this a great place for a night out, and a semi-private back dining room is good for groups. Major cards accepted and wheelchair accessible.

Grand Oaks Restaurant

3701 Grand Ave. - Oakland (510) 451-5253
The bread is hot. The portions are plentiful and the service is friendly. Local families, couples, business associates and newcomers create an energetic ambience. The continental menu features steaks, prime rib, seafood, pasta and many other specialties. The Early Bird specials include soup or salad, and are priced to eat. Attention is paid to presentation and preparation. Also, we have a full service bar. You can have a grand meal at Grand Oaks.

Kimball's East

Emerybay Public Market, Emeryville (510) 658-2555
The Bay Area's finest entertainment venue. Please check

our website for our complete entertainment schedule: www.kimballs.com. We are located in the heart of Emeryville at 5800 Shellmound Street, #200. Our phone number is (510) 658-2555 and fax number is (510) 658-3964.

Julia Morgan Theater

2640 College Ave., Berkeley (510) 845-8542

www.juliamorgan.org
Looking for a great activity for your kids during holiday break? Sign them up for Julia Morgan's Theater Rats. It's an all-day camp for kids 7-14 that teaches them acting, singing and dancing. Call (510) 883-7023 for information.

La Creme de la Creme

5362 College Avenue Oakland (510) 420-8822

Come join us in celebrating our 18th anniversary. We are featuring some of our signature dishes, including Grilled Jumbo Scallops and Tiger Prawns or Brochettes, Rack of Lamb ala Marechale, Rib-Eye Steak Au Poivre and Fillet Mignon Oscar. Our chef has also prepared an extraordinary Seafood Specials menu for this occasion. Try our award-winning sumptuous desserts, Gateau La Creme and Pear Brioche.

You can also enjoy your dining experience in our heated garden patio. Please call (510) 420-8822 for reservations.

The Reef

1000 Embarcadero Oakland (510) 836-2519

At The Reef restaurant you get a combination of quality fresh fish bought daily, with the culinary expertise from the same owners for 18 years. The menu features grilled, sautéed, broiled or Cajun seafood.

Salmon, swordfish, halibut, prawns and year-round lobster plus seasonal specials are prepared to your liking. The Reef Restaurant is located one mile south of Jack London Square off 880 freeway. Free parking and a complimentary guest dock make this a good destination by land or sea.



RoundTable Pizza

OUR LOCATIONS IN OAKLAND:

4400 Keller Ave. (510) 568-4122
2071 Mountain Blvd. (510) 339-9494
2854 Mountain Blvd. (510) 482-1111
4184 Piedmont Ave. (510) 655-6449

Grand Oaks Restaurant
RESTAURANTS • COCKTAILS • PATIO
3701 Grand Ave. • Oakland (510) 451-5253
LUNCH Tues.-Fri. 11:45-2
DINNER Tues.-Sat. 5-10, Sun. 5-9

2045 MacArthur Blvd. (510) 531-5730
398 Grand Ave. (510) 763-0112

Comfort food, convenience food: No matter how you slice it, it is delicious and delightful.

The Cantina

4239 Park Boulevard Oakland (510) 482-3073

Visualize the perfect Mexican Restaurant. What would you create? How about a menu with over sixty freshly prepared selections to choose from? Dishes are created with the freshest ingredients available, with cilantro and a variety of mild and hot peppers. An extensive collection of hot sauces from around the world allow you to add your own special spice to make your meal truly your own.

Margarita's are made to tickle your taste buds. The variety is extensive, the quality and flavor unbeatable: a house margarita, golden, original, blue, pink, sweet, fruit, and of course, the ultimate.

Sounds like we're on our way to a great Fiesta and there's more: Great Luncheon Specials Monday through Saturday; the hottest Happy Hour in paradise; not to mention, the best place to spend a Monday night watching football in the NFL. Dine indoors or out.

The following recipe is from the Holiday Gift Guide, published on Nov. 26, which had a missing ingredient. We apologize for any inconvenience this error may have caused.

Honor's Cheese Cake

M. J. from Oakland submitted a recipe for cheesecake that has been in her family for over 30 years.

1 lb cream cheese
1 lb cottage cheese (small curd)
1/2 cup sugar
3 tbsps. cornstarch
1/4 lb melted butter
1 pint sour cream
1 12-inch spring form pan.
1 cup sugar
4 eggs (lightly beaten)
2 tbsps. lemon juice
3 tbsps. vanilla

Press cottage cheese & cream cheese through a sieve into a large bowl. Stir in one cup of sugar. Add the beaten eggs & lemon juice and stir until well blended. Sift 1/2 cup

of sugar together with flour and cornstarch. Gradually add the cheese to the mixture, continue to stir and add vanilla, melted butter and sour cream blend thoroughly. Pour into the greased spring form pan. Bake at 325 degrees for one hour and ten minutes, the top should be light brown. Remove from the oven and cool in the pan. After it has cooled remove the cake from the pan, cover and place in the refrigerator for two days. Suggested Toppings: Apricot/rum glaze fresh fruit of the season.

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Dining & Entertainment GUIDE

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Chevys

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Bulb

FROM PAGE A1

character adds to the mystery of the Bulb. Is the little man saying "good-bye, good luck, you'll need it," or "this way back to civilization?"

Either way, the statuette's twisted expression suggests irony.

Walking toward the bay, there's a playground of sorts built of rubble — not a safe one, which adds to its allure. Near the shore, there's large sculpture of a scuttled ship with a life-saver that reads, "extra dry, sniff boat." "A curse upon any hand or foot that does damage to this boat," a hand-painted sign reads.

At the last point of land, a spike points skyward, protected by outstretched hands. Nearby, a painting of a seductive woman calls to one with a siren's voice.

Off in the distance, perhaps 100 yards away, a 22-foot sailboat bobs in the waters of the bay, sails tethered, anchor dropped.

Though curtains are pulled shut, one gets the sense there are people aboard, and that they are watching every move that you make.

Could it be the artists?

Around the rim of the northwest-ern side of the landfill are a series of concrete blocks shaped like tombs. Atop one, an artist depicts a blissful couple naked in the sun, though the rough edges of the concrete make details obscure.

On the south side of the Bulb, the only apparent artwork is that created by men who bulldozed sections of buildings and walls of masonry off a cliff years ago. However one famous structure shaped like a castle stands atop a cliff of rubble. At one time, people who lived on the Bulb would stand framed by the arch-shaped window of the castle while visiting Mad Mark, the building's creator.

But all are gone now. Or so it is said.

Following the trail leading back to the city, there is yet another landfill known as the Plateau. There are signs of a village there — or the remains of one.

A 40-foot square of rubbish lay flattened where a man named Radley once had a house. Months ago it sat soundly as any home built by frontiersmen a century before.

Dismantled by East Bay Regional

Parks to make room for a proposed shoreline park, Radley's place once had a roof, an elevated floor, doors, windows and three rooms. A kitchen and living room filled one corner of the house, complete with a jury-rigged sink and a counter top. In the back was Radley's bedroom, with glass windows that opened and closed, and on the west side was a loft with a sun-roof.

Yet city officials from Albany argue there were no houses on the Plateau — only "structures," they say. "There were structures built of two-by-fours that had no running water, nor electricity," they insist. "But there were no houses."

A year ago, Radley lived where there's nothing now. Back then, he stood on the front porch of his structure and smoked a cigarette. A man of few words, Radley glanced at his place with just a hint of pride and said "it's not much, but at least it's something."

Where there once were many such structures, though none comparable to Radley's, there are now flattened ruins full of endless plastic objects — toothpaste tubes, shampoo bottles, milk cartons, combs, bags, hair-brushes, forks and spoons.

Nearly every such spot has the rim of a bicycle wheel or rusted handlebars nearby. Canned goods are not uncommon, and a number of books and magazines have survived, though most are moldy and ruined. Among Radley's abandoned library is a hard-bound book labeled, "V.A. Benefits." Another yellowing paperback is entitled, "Choosing Herbs," and a third "The Bargain Hunters Book."

Apparently, when Radley was told to leave his structure, he decided he didn't need them anymore.

Beyond the ruins and tangled rebar, abandoned boots and socks and clothing, past the neatly stacked lines of cut coyote bush tucked in even rows, there is a trail that runs east to west. While walking the trail, wood ducks steam out into the bay in formation and cormorants stretch their necks, black wings flapping as fast as a bat.

Many of the vistas are spectacular.

A shoreline park will be built at both the Bulb and The Plateau someday. Funds have been allocated, plans are on the drawing board, and public opinion firmly supports such a move.

What happens to the artwork is less certain, as is the future of the people who once called both places home.

Market

FROM PAGE A1

however, may be expecting more of a commitment given their statements last week.

"I don't want to see any restriction on the Farmers Market that's more restricted than what we have now," said Councilman Mark Friedman. "I think all along we've been very clear that we wanted the Farmers Market continued existence to be part of any final plan for the Plaza. No way can I support approval taking it just to Wednesday."

Currently the Farmers Market operates on Tuesdays and Saturdays at the Plaza. Other members of the City Council also voiced their support for the Farmers Market. Additional concerns were raised about the restaurant restrictions and other apparent restrictions in the CC&Rs.

Councilman Norman La Force

noted that he and the other councilmembers did not receive copies of the owners' CC&Rs until just prior to the council meeting. Of the owners' plans to change the Farmers Market, La Force said: "Frankly I view this as a real breach of good faith on the part of the owners." He said that to have the market on a weekday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. is "totally worthless for the public at large. And I think it just shows that really the intent is to get rid of it."

La Force also said the council has talked about the need for more "good dining establishments in the city of El Cerrito" and said he had concerns about the restaurant restrictions in the CC&Rs.

Mayor Gina Brusatori also argued against the restaurant restrictions.

"If we don't have that opportunity to have more restaurants, as a choice, in the internal part of the mall — it just makes it tend to be a strip mall," she said.

"My take on this is the owners are trying to ram this through like they've done at the last minute" La Force said.

The council rejected late pleas from Plaza Project Manager Ronald Holley and Plaza architect Edward Gee to reconsider. Referring to apparent delays in Plaza revitalization and past actions by the City Council to accommodate the owners, Brusatori told Holley and Gee, "I think this is just really not what the community had in mind and I don't think it's what the council had in mind when we went through all the hoops earlier this year."

El Cerrito Planning Manager Jill Keimach said parking concerns are behind the draft CC&Rs agreements in question.

"The concern is, that if you have a lot of restaurants that have access facing north to the center of the Plaza — with the Longs and Albertson's — then they're going to be competing for the parking," Keimach said.

"That's basically what the restaurant owners are trying to do — if you have a restaurant, we all hope it will be there, and we're going to be at a premium on what they (the owners) want to do to keep the Farmers Market but keep it on a day that we're going to be as much of a burden as Keimach said. "But I don't realize what a strong support the Farmers Market and I think they're recognizing."

The new City Council, council members Janet Perka, Kathleen Perka, should matter Dec. 20.

Measure

FROM PAGE A1

against the measure.

There were worries that the fixed indexed fund could result in reduced city services in the future and that it would tie the hands of future City Councils by limiting their budget options. The amended measure needs a second council approval. A detailed staff report on the fiscal implications of the indexed fund will be available before the council reconsiders the matter this Monday.

La Force also pointed out that the proposed amendment to the measure was available to councilmembers before Monday's meeting in a confidential memo, and was not available to the public prior to the meeting.

"This confidential memorandum is not a public document. So regardless of the merits of this — the problem is, I don't have anything in front of me that's public and that the public has had a chance to look at," La Force said.

Bartke and La Force objected to the fact that there was no staff report concerning the proposed amendment and its possible consequences.

The amendment calls for the maintenance and capital replacement

fund to come out of the general fund and be indexed to the property transfer tax as follows: The fund would be financed each year out of the general fund in an amount equal to the amount by which the revenues from the property transfer tax exceed \$250,000.

The fund would be used for all infrastructure and capital needs — city streets, public buildings, parks and properties — and would remain in place for the duration of the special tax.

Mayor Gina Brusatori said the property transfer tax historically has usually brought in about \$400,000 annually — thus the fund would receive about \$150,000 each year from the tax. The actual amount received would vary each year based on how much the property transfer tax brings in.

The real estate property tax, imposed in 1991, imposes a tax of \$7 per \$1,000 of the sale price of a home. For a home selling at \$300,000, the city receives one-time property transfer tax of \$2,100.

The \$250,000 threshold number will be adjusted every five years to keep up with cost-of-living changes, according to the Bay Area Consumer Price Index. The maintenance fund will also receive revenues from sources such as facility and program-user fees and

maintenance costs savings.

Brusatori denied the amendment was a last-minute idea, since it is similar to her proposal to use property transfer taxes to fund infrastructure maintenance and reconstruction that she outlined in the Nov. 12 Journal.

Steve Magyary, co-coordinator of the El Cerrito Citizens' Alliance, suggested the indexed fund at Monday's council meeting, and Brusatori pointed out that he also made the proposal to the city's Park and Recreation Commission last week.

"It's not a last-minute proposal," Brusatori insisted. "What we're doing here is we're making a commitment to the voters — long term — that we care not only about the Swim Center, but (also about) a lot of other capital improvement and maintenance needs."

The City Council will meet in another special session Nov. 29. Council members-elect Kathleen Perka and Janet Abelson will be sworn in to consider the matter.

This will ensure that there is enough time for the new council to consider the measure and make further amendments, if necessary, before the Dec. 10 deadline.

The official council reorganization is still scheduled for Dec. 6.

Watch

FROM PAGE A8

nounced plans to form a committee to guide the planning process.

Richmond Swim Center

On Nov. 20, the City of Richmond and the WCCUSD announced the grand opening of the new Richmond Swim Center and the Coachella Pool, named after the time Kennedy High School teacher.

The beautiful new facility at the corner of the Kennedy High campus at South 45th Avenue Cutting Boulevard was open Monday for free swim for children, families, and community members will open to the public on the schedule starting Dec. 1.

For more information on the aquatics program at the pool, schedule of activities, call 682-0. The pool will also be a for use by Kennedy High School other district schools.

It was wonderful to see an excellent example of cooperation between the school district and the city of Richmond reach fruition many years. Congratulations to one who worked so hard to happen.

Gym

FROM PAGE A1

Unified School District officials received consistent complaints of a strong chemical smell in the gym.

Some children at the school, which opened in the fall, also complained of headaches and dizziness, but that was not directly tied to time in the gym, Principal Marla Stephenson had said. Areas near the gym had normal test results.

To verify the results of the first air test, the district conducted a series of tests last week. Results came in over the weekend, showing no elevated amounts of methyl bromide or any other toxins.

Michael Noel, the toxicologist hired by the district, said he had no idea why the first test showed methyl bromide while the second round did not. The discrepancy, he said, may have been due to a fluke or testing error.

But Noel will check again. Another series of tests will be conducted next week after district officials heat the gym and run its flooring ventilation system to flush out the air, Mills said.

If those tests are negative, the gym likely will be reopened, he said.

The district plans to continue investigating why the gym had the odor. It's hoped that running the ventilation system will clear out unusual smells. If that doesn't work, tests will continue, said district trustee Marsha Skinner.

"We still have to chase what is going on. We're going to have to keep after what's causing the odor," Skinner said.

The sixth- through eighth-grade campus has about 750 students. The gym is used by middle school children as well as by students from Albany High School, which is being rebuilt and doesn't have a gym.

While the gym is closed, middle school students are having physical education outside or doing desk studies. High school students are using facilities at other schools.

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Real Estate & Home

The Montclarion, The Piedmonter, The Berkeley Voice, The Journal

November 26, 1999

Section B

Home Trends What could you do with a lot of extra space? [B3]

Weekly Sales The market adds up with these stats [B4]

Open Homes Get a jump on the competition with our handy listings [B5]

Cheaper computers 'remodel' home

By Diane Goldsmith
KNIGHT RIDDER NEWSPAPERS

HOME OFFICES have been springing up in every room of the house — even sharing the living room, as families increasingly find togetherness around the computer. Now, with the advent of the affordable PC, there's even more of a push to find accommodations for the technology.

"The \$500-and-under-PC this Christmas will open up the market like never before for less-affluent people who haven't bought one," said Ray Allegranza, editor of SoHo Today, the small-office/home-office furniture journal.

Less costly computers — which last year dipped below the \$1,000 barrier — have also been creating more multiple-PC households. The result: sharp demand for home-office pieces that maximize space and are stylish enough to be used in settings that are more home than office.

"When consumers said, 'This salt-gray or putty-looking desk doesn't make it in the great room or the bedroom,'" manufacturers listened, said Allegranza.

"The residential furniture guys are now getting it that you can't drag home stuff that looks like commercial office furniture and the woman of the house says, 'Bring it in.'"

Just prowl the stores and see what manufacturers have produced — everything from quick-fix computer carts to imposing armoires with lots of built-in



THE MALUTINOK FAMILY and a friend take advantage of their family room, which includes a personal computer.

storage and pull-out work surfaces. Among a battery of work centers, some exploit underutilized spaces such as corners, while others close up to hide the work area. Still others may be equipped with casters to be rolled away.

Of course, not all home-office furnishings cohabit. Some have a room of their own. "There's been a huge growth in home-based businesses," said Michael Franks, marketing chief for O'Sullivan, a leader in home-office furniture.

"More than 50 million Americans operate their own business from home, are telecommuters or bring work home at night," he says. And most of them choose

See MORE, Page B14

Real Estate Forum



By Dian Hymer

"One couple was so interested in tying up a hot new listing that they made an the over-asking-price offer, without specifying many of the terms of the contract..."

Purchase agreements net security

Making an offer on a home you want to buy is an exciting experience. But no matter how elated you are, focus on protecting yourself in the transaction.

To do this, your offer (also called a purchase agreement) should include all the provisions, terms and conditions that you'll require to buy the property.

One couple was so interested in tying up a hot new listing that they made an the over-asking-price offer, without specifying many of the terms of the contract, such as the closing date and the time period for their financing to be approved.

See AGREE, Page B6

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Finding reason for thanks in a simply soggy situation

One day this week, while chatting merrily, Anet unlocked and swung open the door to our office. Glancing inside, she fell silent and stood still. Only a moment passed but it was long enough for me to realize that something was amiss, and I moved to the door to see what it was.

Water covered the office floor. We looked up to the ceiling but didn't see any holes.

The old Oriental style rug on the floor was awash under two to three inches of water. Cardboard boxes sitting on the carpet were soaked gray. I sprang to rescue them; these boxes held our house flyers, advertising pieces we've had printed over the years for our listings, all neatly organized in file folders. They are precious to me. I use them as samples for prospective clients.

Many boxes, many flyers and folders were soaking wet. I hurried to remove them from the boxes, separating out the dry ones, lifting them to table tops and shelves.

Anet was still looking around for the source of the water. It had rained the day before but this couldn't be rain we were standing in; there was so much of it. Suddenly, at just the same time, we both realized we were hearing water running at a fairly fast clip. Where was it coming from?

Anet went outside, looked around, came back, asked where the water



By Tarpo and Talbert

turn-off to the house was. She went out again, found and turned it but the sound of water kept on. "Who should I call?" she said. Then she said, "I'm a real estate agent. I should know who to call."

I was still fully engaged in moving wet paper, briefcases, stacks of multiple listing books and newspaper clippings around. It took me a minute to answer: "Shaun."

Shaun is our good friend, a contractor who frequently works for us and seems to know everything there is to know about buildings.

The phones were not wet, and so Anet tried to reach Shaun, but had to leave him a message.

"East Bay MUD" she suggested next and picked up the phone again. "There's a lot of water in our office," she told the person at the water company. And we can hear it running. I

haven't been able to shut off the main. What should I do?"

By now I was moaning about the saturated rug and pad. It is probably ruined. At least the floor itself is concrete. What a sorrow if it had been wood.

My shoes were wet. I lost my footing and felt hard on my knees and elbow. I felt like a fool but I thought I was probably fine.

"Are you okay?" Anet asked. I rolled up my pants, looked at my bloody knees (like a little kid's, I thought) and Anet applied Band-Aids.

"East Bay MUD will send someone within the hour," she said. Then she went back outside to try again to find the source of our problem.

The water company man showed up an hour later. He offered sympathy, looked around and found what had gone wrong. A joint in a copper pipe running along an exterior wall, one used to feed a garden spigot and the sprinkler system, had come unsoldered. The man touched the pipe and it came apart: two pieces now, one continuing to spurt water, the other uselessly disconnected.

The man turned off the water at the main, told us that we should request a credit for the extra water spilled by the break, suggested that we get a plumber, and left.

"I wonder if this is something my insurance might cover," Anet said.

"Maybe I should call and find out." Yes, good news, burst and broken water pipes are covered. Of course, there is a deductible, but within an hour Anet was told, a claims adjuster would call back to tell her what to do next.

While we waited we moved more things. We discussed sweeping the water out of the office or soaking it up somehow but didn't see how to accomplish either. Several large pieces of furniture were sitting on the edges of the carpet, and on top of these were stacked boxes of letterhead and envelopes, reams of paper for the copy and fax machines and such.

We knew that the rug would have to be moved, so we spent our waiting time moving what we could to an adjacent room.

Exactly an hour went by before the claims adjuster called. She was very friendly. She could send out the flood clean-up people - within an hour - but the water to the house would have to be turned back on. Dirty water must be dumped in the sewer line and for that, running water would be needed.

We really did need a plumber. The broken pipe would have to be repaired before we could turn on the water to the house again. But where would we get a plumber quickly? What to do?

Anet gets a certain determination

sometimes, especially when faced with ill-functioning inanimate objects. I've seen it when the computers go screwy. Also with cars that won't start. (She opens the hood and wiggles everything, surprisingly often, this works.)

Once I witnessed Anet's impressive doggedness when her washing machine froze mid-cycle, refusing to agitate any further. She took the agitator apart, then pushed on it hard; it has run well since.

It appears that she simply gets fed up and decides to win, to beat that thing that isn't working. This time her focus was on the broken copper pipe. How could she fix it?

First she measured it. Then she called the wonderful folks at Ellis Hardware in north Oakland and described the situation. She added that she knows nothing about plumbing. "But isn't there something," she inquired, "that I could buy to put over the end of the pipe to seal it off?"

To really fix it, said the Ellis person, it would need to be soldered. But, for right now, to cap off the pipe, yes, Anet would need only a something-or-other which they had in stock. "Come and get it," said the Ellis person.

And so we did. We stood at the counter and were shown how the gizmo worked. They made sure we had the appropriate wrenches to attach it, charged us \$4 and wished us

luck. We thanked them and went back to the pipe. Anet got the water cap, got the water turned off. Five and a half hours later, the rescue company people came, squeegeed Styrofoam blocks off the floor, and then they got the rug away from the water.

We were then able to have gotten the water out of her house. No water means no damage to the rug, nor how much pay. But we didn't lose any office equipment and only a few house flyers and books were

The water was a disaster. We have gotten the water out of her house. No water means no damage to the rug, nor how much pay. But we didn't lose any office equipment and only a few house flyers and books were We are thankful. Happy giving to you.

Anet Tarpo and Pat Talbert have gotten the water out of her house. No water means no damage to the rug, nor how much pay. But we didn't lose any office equipment and only a few house flyers and books were We are thankful. Happy giving to you.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Tuesday, Nov. 30

Maybeck Foundation lecture.

William Maybeck is an architect and executive director of the Bernard Maybeck Foundation. He will give a talk for the Society of Architectural Historians on the space, structure and aesthetics of "Heaven and Earth" in Maybeck's masterpiece, the First Church of Christ, Scientist, Berkeley. Free guided tour of the church from 5:45 to 6:45 p.m., and will start his talk at 7:30 p.m. Corner of Dwight Way and Bowditch Street. Call 510-466-5401

Ongoing

UC Botanical Garden. Enjoy a free tour of the UC Botanical Garden at 1:30 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. Special-interest classes on a variety of subjects available. The garden is located on Centennial Drive behind the UC-Berkeley campus. Call 510-642-3343

Credit counseling. Consumer Credit Counseling Service, a nonprofit community service organization in Oakland has a series of free workshops. Registration is mandatory. Call (800) 501-SAVE

Discover Oakland's changing skyline, landmarks, churches and high-rises on one of the free guided walking tours sponsored by the city's Community and Economic Development Agency. Call 510-238-3234

Sick plant clinic. Join University of California pathologist Dr. Robert Raabe

from 9 a.m. to noon the first Saturday of every month for a free Sick Plant Clinic at the UC Botanical Gardens, 200 Centennial Dr. in Berkeley. Drop in with a piece of a sick or a dying plant and Dr. Raabe will diagnose the problem. Call 510-643-2755

Zero-down loans: Pizza seminar for East County families, second and fourth Wednesdays of the month at 6:30 p.m. at First American Title, 3397 Deer Valley Road, Antioch. Presented by Community Funding. 925-778-4500

First-time home buyers seminar: Learn how to buy a house in East County for minimal or no money down, classes held regularly at American Title, 1210 Central Blvd., Brentwood. Call 925-516-5795 for schedule.

California Association of Residential Lenders: Group meets the second Thursday of the month, Crow Canyon Country Club in Danville. 925-746-1847. Mortgage Broker's Idea House at San Francisco Design Center: 10 a.m.-5 p.m. weekdays through Jan. 28. Interior design exhibit of three homes. Free. See showrooms. 2 Henry Adams St., S.F. 415-490-5800

Building Education Center, a nonprofit education organization at 812 Page St. in Berkeley, offers the following courses (most are hands-on workshops): 510-525-7610:

- "The Bungalow: Tradition and Transformation," 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Nov. 21; \$35.
- "HVAC (heating, ventilation and air-

conditioning) for Beginners," 7-10 p.m. Nov. 30; \$35.

Using government grants and loans to buy a home: Learn how to buy a home for \$2,000 or less down, even with poor credit. Seminars Saturdays in Walnut Creek, Danville and Pleasanton by Rel/Max and Golden Valley Mortgages. 925-362-0426.

Credit-report preparation: Learn how to get your credit ready to apply for a home loan (free credit report). Free weekly classes at Diablo Funding Group, 587 Ygnacio Valley Road, Walnut Creek. 925-945-6112. Ext. 380

No money down, low closing cost seminar: Free biweekly seminar for first-time and move-up buyers, 14895 E. 14th St., Suite 130, San Leandro. By First Security Loans. 510-614-2433

We accept event announcements on a space-available basis. Fax listings for this section to 510-339-4066, write 5707 Redwood Road, Oakland 94619 or e-mail jnsyder1@cctimes.com.

Shower control can be moved

ORLANDO SENTINEL

Q: I am getting ready to remodel my bathroom, which has a shower with the control in the usual location under the shower head. I have seen showers with the control at the other end of the shower, which I find very appealing. Is this change difficult?

A: It is neither difficult nor expensive if you are tearing out the existing shower walls, which in my experience normally is advisable when you are going to the effort and expense of remodeling your bathroom.

All that is required is to run the hot and cold water supply lines to the other end of the shower. A single line can be installed from the shower control to the shower head. Actually, you can put the

ASK THE REMODELER

shower control anywhere there is a place to mount it.

This choice will make your shower more modern and stylish, and it is a pleasant amenity to be able to turn the shower on and off and adjust the temperature without standing under the shower head.

— Robert A. Brobst, Baths by Old Mill Construction, Winter Park, Fla.

Please buckle up

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Ed Messner (510) 662-8494

CHARMING HOME/GREAT STARTER.....\$240,000

2 bdrm 1 ba, almost 1000 sq. ft., 1 car att. gar. w/inter. access, fireplace, some hardwd., comp shingle roof, nice back yd. May be subject to court confirmation. #99038553
Tom Cazzaza (510) 662-8527

RICHMOND VIEW

LOVELY ONE LEVEL HOME.....\$214,500

2 bdrm 1 ba, spacious landscaped grounds, 1 car gar w/int. access, Clear Pest rpt., newer roof, concrete patio #99037504
Chris Christopher (510) 222-8340

BAY VIEW/BEAUTIFUL GARDEN.....\$265,000

3+ bdrm 1 ba, 1 car att. garage, large yard, hardwood floors, dining area, basement, updated kitchen. #99025400
Ed Messner (510) 799-3527

EL CERRITO BORDER/BAY VIEW.....\$279,000

4 bdrm 3 ba, almost 1500 sq. ft., panoramic views, both baths remodeled, lrg. master suite, family rm, cottage in back, new roof, carpet, & paint #99034352
Gary Torretta (510) 222-8870, ext. 220.

BERKELEY

CENTRAL BERKELEY FARM HOUSE.....\$249,000

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Does earthquake insurance have you shaken up?

If you have an earthquake policy with the California Earthquake Authority (CEA), www.cea.ca.gov can do better! Pacific Select Property provides much broader coverage and in many cases at a lower cost. See the exhibit below and compare for yourself.

Coverage	Pacific Select Property	CEA Policy
Dwelling	\$100,000	\$300,000
Other Structures	\$30,000	No Coverage
Personal Property	\$150,000	\$6,000
Loss of Use	\$25,000	\$1,500
Deductible	10%	15%
City / Zip Codes	Premium \$990	Premium \$1,455
Oakland		
94611		
94610		
94618		
94616		
Berkeley		
94702	\$990	\$1,455
94703		
94704		
94705		
94706		
94707		
94708		

Premium quoted for a \$100,000 frame dwelling built 1979-1990

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Clear clutter, build storage for more comfort at home

On The House

By Morris and James Carey

STORAGE SPACE is something everyone seems to have a shortage of. Extra clothing, toys, recreational equipment, luggage, holiday decorations, tools and garden equipment are some of the things that fill up and overwhelm the limited storage space in most homes.

Cars wind up being parked in a driveway or at curbside instead of in the garage. Closets often are so cluttered that one has little chance of easily finding what he or she is looking for. Attics are filled and basements are cramped.

Clutter reduces comfort, increases frustration and can be a tremendous safety hazard. Cramped spaces can cause the area to overheat and result in, among other things, a house fire. An over-crowded attic space can come crashing down and worse, blocked doors or paths can prevent easy escape during a fire.

Before you decide to add on to your home or convert a bedroom into a closet, consider an alternative. The first and most important step to solving storage problems is to get rid of items that are no longer being used. If an item has not been used in recent years, probably never will be. It is taking up valuable space. Consider a garage sale or, better yet, donate items to a person or family in need.

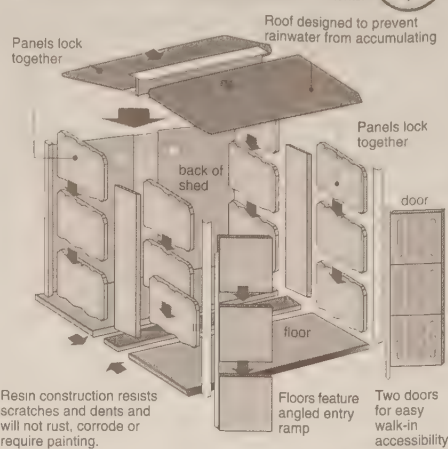
Think efficiency

The next step is managing the storage space that you do have as efficiently as possible. This might require removing existing shelving and installing new storage systems — an assortment of adjustable shelving, wardrobe poles and other storage accessories.

If you have done the above and are still storage-challenged, additional space might be the answer. One alternative is off-site storage. A public storage facility located near

Outdoor storage in two hours

When you run out of storage space, erect this easy-to-assemble shed. Maintenance-free, the shed is made of weather-resistant resin and allows easy access to its contents.



Resin construction resists scratches and dents and will not rust, corrode or require painting.

- Select a level site with good drainage. Doors and roof function best when shed is level.
- Two people are needed to assemble the unit due to the large size of some panels.
- A rubber mallet might be needed to make parts fit tightly.
- Clean shed with a garden hose.

Source: Rubbermaid



ASSOCIATED PRESS

you might be the solution if you have large pieces of furniture or other treasured items that you can't part with. These facilities have freed many a closet, attic or basement, and have allowed vehicles to become acquainted with the garages that were designed to house them.

For some, however, off-site storage is not the answer. It can be remote and inconvenient. Security and the weather-resistance of the

spaces are other concerns.

Another — often more affordable and convenient — alternative is an at-home outdoor storage facility: a storage shed. This type of structure became popular in the late '60s, and has continued to grow in use as a quick and easy solution to many storage problems.



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For years, most of these structures have been made of metal. Unfortunately, the thickness or gauge of material used is often so thin that the structure appears flimsy. Thin panels can also be easily dented and over time rust can take over, reducing the shed to rubble.

Improved materials

Just as other construction materials have improved (building materials, siding, roofing, fencing and decking), so, too, have the materials used to build storage sheds. Today's top-of-the-line outdoor stor-

age sheds are made of virtually indestructible and weather-resistant resin. These sheds last longer and are easy to assemble — in as little as two hours. And you don't need a toolbox filled with tools to do it, either. Some models produced by leading manufacturers interlock, and require only a rubber mallet and a Phillips screwdriver.

Plastic construction offers other benefits — it has greater impact-resistance, and won't rust or rot like its metal or wood-fabricated counterparts. Some models come equipped with a floor system that

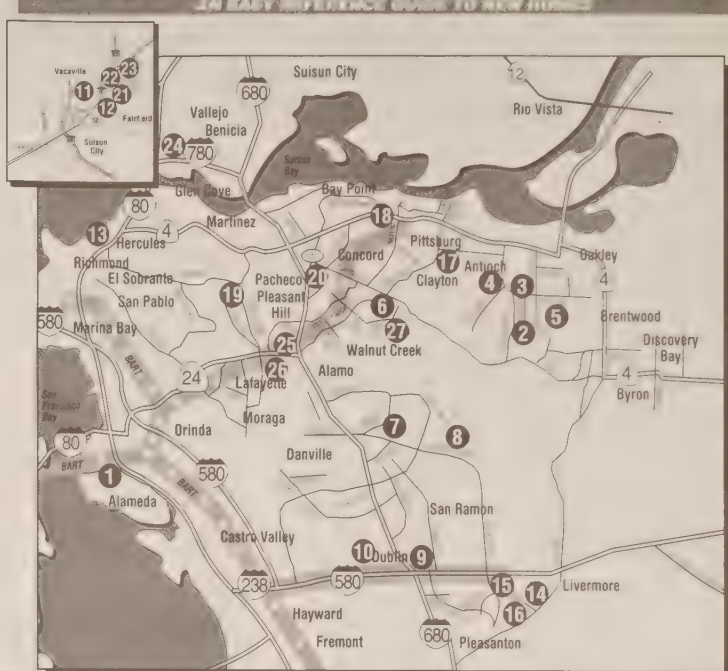
makes the shed weather-resistant to provide dry storage.

Because it is typically neither affordable nor practical to construct an outdoor storage shed that matches the exterior of a home, the shed you choose should be camouflaged with plant material — regardless of how attractive it appears.

There are also a few other important things that should be done to provide the best and longest-lasting installation. First, select a level

See COMFORT, Page B14

NEW COMMUNITIES



ALAMEDA

1 The Gardens

From low \$300,000's. 3 & 4BR 2 story 2 car gar. 1365-1676 sq ft Great rooms, lots avail. Alameda's newest! Also avail. at Starward/Dubin Webster Tube/Buena Vista/ to models Open 10-5, Tues 12-5 510-521-5347 www.schulera.com

ANTIOCH

2 Castellana at Black Diamond Knolls

From the \$230,000's New Release! Richland's distinctive tower accented architecture is a must see. Lg. 4 & 5 BR 2200-2600 sq ft w/3 car gar. country mt. 7000-sq ft lots. Lone Tree to Mokelumne Dr. Open 11-5 925-706-8555 or www.richlandinfo.com

3 Lone Tree Estates-Masters Collection

From mid \$200,000's. Up to \$5K allowances! Final Phase. Rec. ctr. (pool/spa/tennis/more!) 1 & 2 story 2127-2896 sq ft. 3-6BR/3 car gar. ext. amenities & opts. Lone Tree/Murwood Davidson Homes Open 10-5 925-778-3092

4 Tourelle

From low \$300,000's. New Release! Richland's European-style estate homes. 2715-3935 sq ft. 4-6 BR, 3 & 4 car gar. 1 & 2 stories. Lots avg. 10,000+ sq ft. Dramatic entries, fam rms, mstr comm. n open space. Lone Tree to Golf Course Rd. 11-5 925-706-8883 or www.richlandinfo.com

BRENTWOOD

5 Diablo Vista

From the \$200,000's Grand Opening Celebration! Affordable luxury living! Exciting new single-fam. neighborhood w/ designs to 2700 sq ft. 5BR 3BA. Central comm. loc. at Fairview & San Jose. Richmond American Homes www.richmondamerican.com 925-743-0238

CONCORD

Crystl Ranch

From mid \$400,000's. New Release! Exciting neighborhood, luxury homes by Legacy Homes. Nestled among rolling hills, 4 spacious floorplans 2400-3400 sq ft. elegant interiors, customizing opts. Ygnacio Vly/rt at Pine Hollow Rd to Rolling Woods Way 925-687-3222 www.legacyluxuryhomes.com

DANVILLE

7 Campbell Place

From the \$800,000's. Ltd. edition of only 20 craftsman-style exec homes on lg. view lots w/ flexible floorplans 680 to Sycamore Vly Rd. E. rt. onto Camino Tassajara. Left on Glasgow Dr. rt. on Glasgow Cr. rt. on Campbell Pl. By Pacific Union Homes 925-736-7369

8 Shadow Creek Manor

From low \$600,000's. Selling Final Phase! Closeout Sale! 4-5 BR. Take 680 to Crow Canyon Rd. east, right on Camino Tassajara, follow signs Open 10-5 closed Wed/Thurs 925-736-7369

DUBLIN

9 Merlion at Emerald Park

From high \$300,000's. NEW RELEASE! Models open. Luxury living in master-planned community with 3 home designs up to 2200 sq ft. 5 BR & 3 baths. Loft, super family room, retreat options. Near I-580 & Dublin BART. Hacienda ext. no. off 580. Open daily 10-5. Mon 2-5. Richmond American Homes www.richmondamerican.com 925-629-8029

10 Starward

From low \$300,000's. 3-4BR, 2BA, 2 story, steel built. Garden setting/ views/hwy. access/shopping/schools. 580/next San Ramon No./rt. Amador Vly/rt. Starward Dr. www.schulera.com or 925-675-1060

FAIRFIELD

11 First Green at Rancho Solano CC

From the \$300,000's. Surrounded by 3 terraces & views of rolling hills. Loc. in established neighborhood, w/ shopping nearby 4-5 BR. 2852-3429 sq ft. 2-3 car gar. Easy commuting w/ 80. Centex Homes 707-426-5211

12 Ridgeview at Paradise Valley

From mid \$200,000's. Grand Opening! Spacious, to 7BR, 4BA, 3 plans, 2200-3400 sq ft. Richmond American Homes. Open 10-5/Mon 2-30-5 I-80 exit N. Texas St. rt. left on Dickson Hill/rt. on Manuel Campos Pkwy/rt. on Paradise Vly 707-438-7800 www.richmondamerican.com

HERCULES

13 Belleterre

From \$305,880. New Release! 4BR, 3BA, 2 or 3 car gar. Opt. 5th BR, den or super family rm. Steel-built, structured cabinetry. Bay views, country setting, easy commutes 160 to San Pablo Rd. to Hercules Ave. to Tian Way. Open 10-5, Tues. 12-5. 510-741-9185 or www.schulera.com

LIVERMORE

14 Ravenswood

From upper \$400,000's. Country estates on 1/4 ac. lots. 1 & 2 story lg. 4BR 2-3BA to 3246 sq ft. No Contingent Sales. 580 E to So. Vasco. rt. at Emily 11-5 closed Thurs. www.creativedots.com/ravenswood 925-449-5458

15 Ridgecrest

From mid \$300,000's. Phase 5 Now Selling! 39 luxurious homes. 4 designs to 2273 sq ft. 4BR 2-3BA. Desirable loc., nr I-580/BART/ACE tran. Richmond American Homes. 580 to N. Livermore. left on Portola. Open 10-5 Mon 2-5 925-371-6648 www.richmondamerican.com

16 Vintage Collection

From low \$600,000's. Scenic homes by Delco Bldrs. 1/3-1/2 ac. w/ views of Livermore Vly/vineyards. Close to Ruby Hill Golf Course, top rated schools. Spacious floorplans. complete amenities. Open Thurs.-Mon 925-606-5505

PITTSBURG

17 Highlands Ranch

From \$200,000's. Beautifully designed. 1134-3549 sq ft. 3-5BR 2BA car gar. opts incl. den, 2nd mstr BR, den, mstr retreats. N. hwy's, walk to BART. Hwy 4 to Bailey Rd. so, rt. on Leland left on Southwood 925-709-1037 www.seenhomes.com

18 Monterra II, Summit Collection

From mid \$200,000's. 4-6 BR w/lofts to 7. Three floorplans. 1815-4243 sq ft. 3 car gar., great opts. incl. second mstr BR, den, mstr retreats. N. hwy's, walk to BART. Hwy 4 to Bailey Rd. so, rt. on Leland left on Southwood 925-709-1037 www.seenhomes.com

PLEASANT HILL

19 Grayson Woods

From low \$500,000's. Up to \$15K allowances! View & Cul-de-sac. Lots! Perfect loc. for commuters. Two-story, 2212-3135 sq ft. 3-6BR 3 car gar. Future golf course, low maint. 4 mi. to 5 hwy/BART. Taylor Blvd to Grayson Davidson Homes. Open 10-5 Mon 1-5 925-274-0800

20 Village Square

Mid \$300,000's to low \$400,000's. Single family homes by Delco Bldrs. 3-5BR, 2.5-3BA, quality craftsmanship. Private entry, landscaped common area. Close to PH BART. 680. More info 925-952-4595

VACAVILLE

21 Brighton at Westgate

From upper \$180,000's. Beautifully designed 3 & 4 BR Seeno homes. 4 floorplans. 1432-1843 sq ft. 2 car garage. convenient location 180 to Alamo Dr. to Peabody to Foxboro 707-448-6243 www.seenhomes.com

22 Diamond Grove

From mid \$160,000's. Gated active adult comm. Contemporary 1 story homes. Beaut. pvt. rec. club/game rms. swimming & more! Open 11-5-180 to Orange Dr. follow to Orange Tree Cir. 707-447-5800 or 707-447-5800

23 Village Hills

From low \$200,000's. No Mello Roos! Beaut. Estate style to 3312 sq ft. 3 & 4.5 BR. 3 car garages. Easy access to hwy's/shopping. Take Elmina exit off I-80. East to Belair Dr. 707-454-0162 www.seenhomes.com

VALLEJO

24 Crystal Pointe

From the \$190,000's. FINAL PHASE! Halted homes in established neighborhood w/ views of Carquinez Strait. 3 Plans to 1613 sq ft. 3 BR, 2 1/2 BA. Great comm. loc. near I-80. Open Sat.-Mon. www.richmondamerican.com Richmond American Homes 707-643-5486

WALNUT CREEK

25 Larkey Estates

From \$494,900. PHASE I Pre-Model Sale. LCI Homes presents 13 luxury homes on estate lots. 4-6BR. 2458-2800 sq ft. creek, mature trees. Loc. at Larkey Ln. & Geary Rd. grt. access to 680, 24 & BART. Open Wed/Thurs 1-5, Fri/Sat/Sun 10-5 NRS Brokers. 925-935-9152

26 Laurel Glen

Mid \$400,000's to mid \$500,000's. Delco Bldrs. Affordability & style in 3 spacious plans. Close to W.C. schools. 24 & 680. downtown Lafayette & W.C. Open Sat/Sun 2569 Lucy Ln 925-975-5205

27 Oak Creek & Shadow Brook Estates

From \$829,900. Estate homes by Delco Bldrs. on 1 ac. lots against rolling hills/Mt. Diablo. Close to parks, schools. One of best loc. in East Bay feat. distinctive architecture, dramatic int., complete amenities. Open Sat/Sun 3689 Oak Creek Ct. 925-256-9504

WEEKLY HOME SALES

ALAMEDA

122 Bannister Wy - \$330,000
 1601 Broadway #9 - \$205,000
 1635 Buena Vista Av - \$265,000
 2200 Clinton Av - \$350,000
 430 Cola Ballena #39 - \$335,000
 585 Creedon Cl - \$708,000
 6 Dresden By - \$525,000
 1035 Eagle Av - \$235,000
 1222 Encinal Av - \$342,000
 1264 Hawthorne St - \$358,000
 1231 High St - \$277,000
 449 Indian By - \$420,000
 3549 McSherry Wy - \$360,000
 1 Miranda Ct - \$425,000
 1528 Pacific Av - \$231,000
 160 Purcell Dr - \$405,000
 240 Sea Breeze - \$392,500
 1026 Taylor Av - \$380,000
 2846 Van Buren St - \$610,000
 1033 Verdemar Dr - \$226,000
 51 Vista Rd - \$427,000
 1321 Webster St #D115 - \$173,000

ALBANY

808 Cerrito St - \$210,000
 707 Key Route Bl - \$280,000
 555 Pierce St #1134 - \$155,000
 555 Pierce St - \$134,000
 639 San Gabriel Av - \$444,000

BERKELEY

1522 6th St #A - \$275,000
 1518 Addison St - \$270,000
 1807 Addison St - \$875,000
 1359 Ashby Av - \$191,000
 1626 Berkeley Wy - \$340,000
 1648 Cedar St - \$340,000
 2642 College Av - \$420,000
 1357 Curtis St - \$260,000
 1121 Dwight Wy - \$295,000
 2413 Fulton St - \$417,000
 2930 Fulton St - \$335,000
 2328 Le Conte Av - \$655,000
 1036 Mariposa Av - \$689,000
 34 Panoramic Wy - \$649,000
 2431 Sacramento St - \$242,000
 630 Santa Barbara Rd - \$780,000
 1635 Scenic Av #4 - \$324,000
 1255 Spruce St - \$495,000
 1423 Stannage Av - \$266,000
 1524 Summit Rd - \$849,000
 1401 Walnut St #2C - \$407,000
 2632 Warring St #2 - \$208,000

EL CERRITO

2515 Alva Av - \$285,000
 8430 Buckingham Dr - \$422,500
 2313 Cedar St - \$230,000
 525 Clayton Av - \$400,000
 1305 Lawrence St - \$235,000
 1708 Lexington Av #10 - \$189,000
 1525 Norvell St - \$280,000
 12 Pomona Av - \$340,000
 716 Pomona Av - \$222,000
 6534 Stockton Av - \$360,000

EL SOBRANTE

507 Chabre Ct - \$145,000
 4346 Harmon Rd - \$176,500
 1137 Kelvin Rd - \$250,000

On the average

ALAMEDA

TOTAL SALES: 22
 LOWEST AMOUNT: \$173,000
 HIGHEST AMOUNT: \$708,000
 MEDIAN AMOUNT: \$350,000
 AVERAGE AMOUNT: \$362,705

ALBANY

TOTAL SALES: 5
 LOWEST AMOUNT: \$134,000
 HIGHEST AMOUNT: \$444,000
 MEDIAN AMOUNT: \$155,000
 AVERAGE AMOUNT: \$244,600

BERKELEY

TOTAL SALES: 22
 LOWEST AMOUNT: \$191,000
 HIGHEST AMOUNT: \$875,000
 MEDIAN AMOUNT: \$340,000
 AVERAGE AMOUNT: \$435,545

EL CERRITO

TOTAL SALES: 10
 LOWEST AMOUNT: \$189,000
 HIGHEST AMOUNT: \$422,500
 MEDIAN AMOUNT: \$280,000

520 Lisa Ct - \$162,500

EMERYVILLE

2 Admiral Dr #387 - \$213,000
 7 Captain Dr #209 - \$154,000
 6363 Christie Av #1206 - \$388,000
 3 Commodore Dr #252 - \$139,500
 1540 Park Av #103 - \$275,000
 3618 Peralta St - \$75,000

KENSINGTON

117 Purdue Av - \$1,055,000
 31 Rincon Rd - \$360,000

OAKLAND

2008 100th Av - \$132,500
 1741 105th Av - \$194,000
 2200 13th Av - \$238,500
 1021 20th St - \$180,000
 1938 25th Av - \$180,000
 1733 26th Av - \$91,500
 2644 35th Av - \$286,000
 714 36th St - \$225,000
 2117 42nd Av - \$85,000
 2630 55th Av - \$172,000
 1029 56th St - \$180,000
 1070 61st St - \$115,000
 1969 62nd Av - \$110,000
 2009 64th Av - \$81,500
 1229 71st Av - \$96,000
 2934 73rd Av - \$97,000
 1651 74th Av - \$147,500
 2877 7th St - \$235,000
 1447 83rd Av - \$105,000
 959 86th Av - \$95,000
 2314 90th Av - \$102,000
 1342 93rd Av - \$98,000
 1542 96th Av - \$90,000
 10011 A St - \$125,000
 5612 Adeline St - \$89,000
 1963 Arrowhead Dr - \$350,000

AVERAGE AMOUNT: \$296,250

EL CERRITO

TOTAL SALES: 1
 LOWEST AMOUNT: \$145,000
 HIGHEST AMOUNT: \$250,000
 MEDIAN AMOUNT: \$162,500
 AVERAGE AMOUNT: \$183,500

EMERYVILLE

TOTAL SALES: 6
 LOWEST AMOUNT: \$75,000
 HIGHEST AMOUNT: \$388,000
 MEDIAN AMOUNT: \$154,000
 AVERAGE AMOUNT: \$207,417

KENSINGTON

TOTAL SALES: 2
 LOWEST AMOUNT: \$360,000
 HIGHEST AMOUNT: \$1,055,000
 MEDIAN AMOUNT: \$0
 AVERAGE AMOUNT: \$707,500

OAKLAND

TOTAL SALES: 97
 LOWEST AMOUNT: \$78,000
 HIGHEST AMOUNT: \$910,000
 MEDIAN AMOUNT: \$190,000
 AVERAGE AMOUNT: \$228,134

6262 Aspinwall Rd - \$595,000
 858 Athens Av - \$80,500
 5815 Balboa Dr - \$380,000
 4053 Barner Av - \$332,000
 4101 Barner Av - \$302,000
 3044 Bartlett St - \$162,000
 565 Bellevue Av #1104 - \$232,000
 565 Bellevue Av #2503 - \$315,000
 565 Bellevue Av #34 - \$350,000
 3124 Birdsall Av - \$242,000
 3308 Birdsall Av - \$172,000
 3249 Blandon Rd - \$239,000
 1809 Brandon St - \$275,000
 5414 Brookdale Av - \$138,000
 260 Caldecott Ln #225 - \$198,000
 4635 Camden St - \$225,000
 255 Capricorn Av - \$390,000
 6323 Castle Dr - \$436,000
 10 Clara Ct - \$105,000
 5915 Colby St - \$365,000
 3161 Davis St - \$125,000
 3900 Delmont Av - \$199,500
 2012 East 20th St - \$149,000
 370 Euclid Av - \$349,000
 423 Euclid Av - \$290,000
 338 Fairmount Av - \$90,000
 4059 Fullington St - \$88,000
 4225 Glen Av - \$495,000
 2715 Grande Vista Av - \$115,000
 40 Gravatt Dr - \$910,000
 3133 Harrison St - \$252,000
 2602 Highland Av - \$138,000
 9300 Hillside St - \$350,000
 2605 Inyo Av - \$90,000
 385 Jayne Av #208 - \$83,000
 1 Kelton Ct #10E - \$315,000
 2615 Kingsland Av - \$135,000
 3719 Laurel Av - \$280,000
 654 Longridge Rd - \$230,000
 357 MacArthur Bl - \$240,000
 3701 Magee Av - \$210,000

3433 Margarita Av - \$199,000
 5242 Masonic Av - \$345,000
 5477 Masonic Av - \$580,000
 3800 Maybelle Av #5 - \$135,000
 870 Mead Av - \$190,000
 123 Monte Cresta Av - \$245,000
 2820 Monticello Av - \$165,000
 3466 Oak Knoll Bl - \$203,000
 980 Park Ln - \$460,000
 7863 Plymouth St - \$130,000
 4212 Porter St - \$130,000
 2507 Potomac St - \$350,000
 5424 Ruth Av - \$159,000
 197 Samaria Ln - \$290,000
 4547 San Carlos Av - \$194,000
 370 Santa Clara Av #5 - \$83,500
 8925 Seneca St - \$137,000
 5154 Shafter Av - \$510,000
 7618 Spencer St - \$78,000
 4610 Stauffer Pl - \$310,000
 2541 Stockbridge Dr - \$417,000
 7924 Sunkist Dr - \$170,000
 4365 Terrabella Wy - \$345,000
 6217 Thornhill Dr - \$188,000
 1436 Trestle Glen Rd - \$521,000
 4615 Tyrrell St - \$165,000
 2715 Vallecito Pl - \$115,000
 854 Walker Av - \$379,000
 7 West Embarcadero #314 - \$158,000
 7925 Winthrop St - \$210,000

PIEDMONT

459 Mountain Av - \$905,000
 2038 Oakland Av - \$1,428,000
 910 Rose Av - \$500,000

RICHMOND

227 18th St - \$130,000
 411 23rd St - \$190,000
 663 32nd St - \$132,000
 514 37th St - \$160,000

SAN LEANDRO

TOTAL SALES: 3
 LOWEST AMOUNT: \$500,000
 HIGHEST AMOUNT: \$1,428,000
 MEDIAN AMOUNT: \$905,000
 AVERAGE AMOUNT: \$944,333

SAN LEANDRO

TOTAL SALES: 33
 LOWEST AMOUNT: \$95,000
 HIGHEST AMOUNT: \$344,000
 MEDIAN AMOUNT: \$145,000
 AVERAGE AMOUNT: \$171,515

SAN LEANDRO

TOTAL SALES: 32
 LOWEST AMOUNT: \$87,500
 HIGHEST AMOUNT: \$362,000
 MEDIAN AMOUNT: \$209,000
 AVERAGE AMOUNT: \$213,375

SAN LEANDRO

TOTAL SALES: 11
 LOWEST AMOUNT: \$200,000
 HIGHEST AMOUNT: \$259,000
 MEDIAN AMOUNT: \$223,500
 AVERAGE AMOUNT: \$227,455

748 9th St - \$95,000
 1200 Brickyard Wy #112 - \$182,000
 3011 Center Av - \$125,000
 3607 Center Av - \$145,000
 2824 Clinton Av - \$147,000
 5106 Coach Dr - \$344,000
 116 Commodore Dr - \$207,500
 38 Greenview Ln - \$140,000
 3772 Hidden Springs Cr - \$329,000
 2416 Highgate Dr - \$260,000
 407 Joan Vista St #22 - \$98,000
 3919 La Cresenta Rd - \$145,000
 838 Lassen St - \$209,000
 2886 Maricopa Av - \$139,000
 520 Marina Bay Pky - \$117,000
 2533 McBryde Av - \$123,000
 1205 Melville Sq #104 - \$129,500
 6055 Monterey Av - \$332,000
 6078 Monterey Av - \$315,000
 2668 Odonnell Dr - \$186,000
 1759 Rheem Av - \$124,500
 2527 Rheem Av - \$115,000
 436 South 17th St - \$199,500
 212 South 37th St - \$130,000
 3501 Stewarton Dr - \$175,000
 1949 Tyler St - \$152,000

640 Winton
 111 Vista Dr
 800 Virginia

SAN LEANDRO

2020 166th Av - \$220,000
 14370 Acapulco Rd - \$100,000
 867 Bella Vista Av - \$100,000
 1400 Carpenter St #120
 1400 Carpenter St #120
 513 Cascade Rd - \$100,000
 1382 Chapel Av - \$100,000
 2225 Charter Wy - \$100,000
 2231 Charter Wy - \$100,000
 14566 Cypress St - \$100,000
 1421 Dayton Av - \$100,000
 14900 Donald Av - \$100,000
 14117 Doolittle Dr - \$100,000
 549 Dowling Bl - \$100,000
 39 Dutton Av - \$180,000
 17072 Ehle St - \$150,000
 2073 Fairbanks St - \$100,000
 2450 Fairway Dr - \$170,000
 900 Lee Av - \$304,000
 1285 Lillian Av - \$220,000
 621 Maud Av - \$205,000
 1369 Pearson Dr - \$200,000
 14962 Riverdale - \$100,000
 1732 Sidney Av - \$100,000
 15491 Tern Ct - \$300,000
 2048 Thomas Av - \$100,000
 1738 Thorton Pl - \$100,000

This list was compiled for publication in Hills Newspapers, a subsidiary of the San Francisco-based company, which provides weekly records from the county recorder's office. Neither the company nor the recorder's office guarantees the completeness of the information, which is based upon official county transfer taxes. (Hills Call 510-568-7233)

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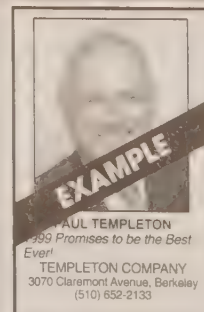
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The turning point: when you no longer love your home

Smart Moves

By Ellen James Martin

the big family compound. "You should think about it for quite a while before you make a decision."

Apart from the status tied to the possession of a big home, there are long-term family considerations. "I'm the sort of person who believes your family only gets larger, not smaller," Barker says. After 43 years in their sprawling ranch-style house, Barker and her husband vow never to sell voluntarily. This is in spite of the sizable yard to maintain, as well as four big bedrooms and an unusually large family room to keep clean.

Barker's two children long ago passed through their college years. Now in their early 40s, her offspring have five children of their own, ages 8 to 21. Recently she became a great-grandmother. Members of her extended family, who live in the vicinity, come by as often as two or three times a week and often stay overnight. She's pleased to be able to accommodate her family members. Especially enjoyable, she says, are the times they spend together in the huge family room with its 10-foot-wide stone fireplace.

"I've known a lot of people who have gone into smaller places and then regretted it because there was no space to entertain their family when they came over," she says.

■ **Think about carefree alternatives to the oversized home.**

Maybe you're no longer close to your grown children, either psychologically or geographically. Or perhaps you hold your clan gatherings away from home, such as seasonal reunions held at winter ski resorts or summer beach houses. Then it doesn't make sense to retain a large year-round abode in order to put up your children or grandchildren, Barker acknowledges. Likewise, childless homeowners may see little joy in retaining a huge home after they've reached a certain stage in their lives.

Giving up a spacious yard or floor plan doesn't necessarily mean you have to yield on other amenities. You might enjoy moving to a

luxurious planned community of single family homes, townhouses or condo-apartments. There you could enjoy small yet well-appointed interior spaces, and the freedom of knowing that common grounds (including pools and clubhouses) will be kept up by a maintenance company. "You can find really nice condos, sometimes with gourmet kitchens, two or three fireplaces and wide-open views," says Fritz.

One popular option for many downsizers is a gated community where security is tight enough that the owners can travel with peace of mind that their homes and possessions are safe in their absence.

■ **Recognize the pitfalls of buying in a planned community.** "The biggest downside is the association fees," says Barker of Century 21. Regardless of its style and type of housing, any community that features common ownership of property will nearly always require its individual owners to pay monthly fees for upkeep. These charges can range anywhere from \$50 to several hundred dollars per month. Rarely are owners in planned communities afforded the protection of absolute ceilings on fee increases.

Nevertheless, Barker points out that fee increases are usually gradual, amounting to no more than 6 percent to 8 percent a year. Still, it's wise to look into the history of fee increases in a planned community where you're contemplating a purchase. In many cases, they can foreshadow future trends.

Barker also suggests that you inquire about major repairs that could soon be needed in an older community with common property. Most community associations have the right to impose one-time fees for expensive improvements, such as roof replacements within a townhouse development.

■ **Recognize that all housing**

choices require trade-offs.

A smaller home could mean diminished monthly payments, an especially important advantage to retired people living on fixed incomes. On the other hand, if you purchase a low-maintenance property with scarcely any land around it, you're likely to give up a degree of privacy. "There's no single right answer for every individual," Barker says.

What's more, one partner in a marriage may be ready to downsize, while the other remains

adamant on staying put. It's crucial for both partners to agree to the move.

Fritz advises that those considering giving up a big home to buy a smaller one put pen to paper to be sure the change is not too jolt-

ing. "Make a 'good and bad list,' including the reasons to stay and the reasons to go."

Ellen James Martin is a syndicated columnist. Write her c/o Universal Press Syndicate, 4900 Main St., Kansas City, MO 64112.



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516 Central Avenue	3BD/1BA	2-4	\$399,900
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3 Avocet Court/New Construction	4BD/2.5BA	Sat/Sun 10-5	\$355,000
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1821 Everett Street	2BD/1BA	2-4	\$349,000
Gallagher & Lindsey	Darlene Gardner	510-748-1104	
2 Avocet Court/New Construction	3BD/2.5BA	Sat/Sun 10-5	\$348,000
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Realty Investment Planning, Inc. Paul G. Chelen		925-933-2400	
1410 Hoover Court	2BD/1BA	2-4	\$220,000
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Agree

FROM PAGE B1

The buyers knew that the sellers wanted to exclude their master bedroom drapes from the sale, but the buyers did not address this issue in the contract. They hoped that the sellers would change their minds and let the drapes stay with the house.

Some buyers are annoyed at having to deal with complicated contractual issues, without first knowing whether the sellers will accept their price. They figure that if the price is right, the rest will follow.

The problem with this approach is that you may not be dealing with a cooperative party on the other side. By accepting your price, the seller may feel that he's entitled to call the shots when it comes to ironing out the remaining terms and conditions of the contract.

Rather than build uncertainty into the contract, it's better to agree on as many contract terms as possible at the beginning of the transaction. Then you and the other party will know exactly where you stand. This will keep the stress-level to a minimum.

Your purchase contract should in-

"Rather than build uncertainty into the contract, it's better to agree on as many contract terms as possible at the beginning of the transaction."

clude the following:

- Identification of the property and the buyers and sellers
- Purchase price and amount of the good faith deposit (also call the earnest money deposit)
- Financing terms, including the maximum interest rate and points the buyers will accept, and the time period for the buyers to obtain their financing commitment
- Prorations such as for property taxes and rents (if applicable)
- Closing and possession dates; a provision for the transfer of clear title from the sellers to the buyers
- Attached and personal property that are included and excluded
- Disclosures and compliance

obligations that are required by law; inspection contingencies (home, termite, roof, drainage, etc.)

- Final walk-through provision; additional terms and conditions (such as the sale of another property, seller warranties, rights of tenants in possession, a home warranty plan, risk of loss, condition of the property)
- Methods for resolving dispute
- Confirmation of the agency relationship where required by law
- How closing costs will be shared

- Acceptable period for the seller's response to your offer
- If your purchase is contingent on an event happening that is not covered in the above list, you should include it in your purchase agreement to protect yourself.

You may be refinancing another property to accumulate the down payment needed to close on the new house. Unless the refinance is complete and you have the cash in hand, you should make the successful completion of the refinance a contingency of your contract.

If your refinance doesn't come through, you would probably have a legitimate way out of the contract.

To keep both buyers and sellers working on the same wave length, compile a list of all the contract con-

tingencies and their due dates. Make sure that all parties to the contract have copies of the timeline. And confirm that there aren't any disputes about critical dates.

Dian Hymer is a top-producing broker associate with Coldwell Banker in the Montclair/Piedmont office and author of "Buying and

Selling a Home in California," "Starting Out: The Complete Buyer's Guide," both from Chronicle Books. Order

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This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis.

B A Y A R E A HOME mortgage RATES

FINANCIAL INSTITUTION	30-YEAR FIXED RATE+POINTS(APR)	1-YEAR ARM RATE+POINTS(APR)	3-YEAR ARM RATE+POINTS(APR)	7-YEAR ARM RATE+POINTS(APR)	ADDITIONAL PROGRAMS
Aston Financial Group 925-934-5323	7.25+2(7.44)	NQ	NQ	NQ	Save thousands of dollars with our discounted real estate services. Call for details.
California Home Loans 800-952-8888 CA DRE Lic#01096460	7.75+0(7.79) 7.375+1.5(7.55) 7.125+3(7.44)	7.375+0(7.39) 7+1.5(7.17) 5.75+3(6.05)	7.25+0(7.27) 6.5+1.5(6.66) 6+3(6.30)	7.625+0(7.66) 7.125+1.5(7.45) 6.625+3(7.05)	Over 50,000 loan options: Jumbo ARMs: 3/1 7+0(7.27) 5/1 7.25+0(7.27); 1mo COFI 5.95+0(6.00), 5% down, no prepay. Purchase/refinance, no points/no prepay. Get cash in 3 days.
CMG Mortgage, Inc. 800-788-6522 CA DRE 0170028	7.25+1.5(7.46) 7.125+2(7.36) 7+2.5(7.26)	5.875+0(6.59) 6.25+1(6.99) 3.5+1(6.89)	6.875+1(7.29) 6.625+1.5(7.19) 6.375+2(7.09)	7.25+1.5(7.27) 7+2(7.19) 6.875+2.5(7.12)	Open Saturday and Sunday. Low-doc and quick qualify programs. Web: www.SteveCarlin.com Email: steve@stevecarlin.com
Commonwealth United Mortgage 800-640-2577	7.75+0 7.5+1 7.375+2	NQ	NQ	NQ	Conforming loan amounts to \$250K. 100% financing. Crappy credit OK. One-time close construction. VA/FHA, CHFA, PERS, CAL, VET
Discovery Mortgage Co. 510-539-7245	7.625+0 7.25+1.25 7+2.375	5.625+0	NQ	NQ	Jumbos: 5/1 ARM 7+0; 7/1 7.375+0 or 6.75+1.25—\$254,500 minimum loan amount. VA, FHA, CHFA, PERS, CAL, VET. Also 5pm/weekends, 510-539-7245. Se habla Español. 925-488-4432
Downey Savings & Loan 800-780-6614	7.25+1.875(7.50)	NQ	NQ	NQ	Jumbo: 30yr 7.5+2(7.73); 15yr 7.125+2.125(7.51), COFI 4.75+375(7.50). Direct lender, 40 years experience. All types borrowers. Fixed and ARM mortgages.
Interloan.com 800-641-7556	7.5+1.875(7.62)	6.25+1.875(8.29)	7+6.25(8.10)	7.5+2.75(8.23)	America's home finance network. www.interloan.com
J&J Mortgage Corporation 925-254-1271	7.5+1(7.62)	6.25+1(6.36)	6.875+1(6.99)	7.25+1(7.37)	FHA/VA specialists. Se habla Español. Bankers since 1949. FHA 30yr ARM. Lock 60 days, caps 1% & 5%.
Mortgage Market 800-837-LOAN	7.625+0	5.625+0(7.75)	7+0(7.76)	7.5+0(7.75)	Credit problems, bankrupt, difficult loans our specialty. All government loans. 100% loans, credit lines, construction. 20 years of service. Appointments anytime! 1-800-837-LOAN
U.S. Mortgage Center 1-800-867-9813	7.375+0(7.54)	6.25+0(8.21)	7.25+0(8.14)	7.375+0(7.94)	Open Saturday and Sunday. FHA/VA, conventional. Debt consolidation. First-time buyers special. Open Thanksgiving weekend.

Information is current as of November 23, 1999. For information on specific mortgage programs, call the lender. Rates, points and programs are subject to change and cannot be guaranteed. Points include discount and origination fees. Most quotes are for 30-day lock-ins, unless otherwise stated. Rates quoted are based on loan amounts of \$125,000. Maximum conventional loan amount \$240,000; jumbo loans are in excess of \$240,000. Annual Percentage Rate (APR)—an interest rate reflecting the cost of a mortgage as a yearly rate. This rate is likely to be higher than the stated note rate or advertised rate on the mortgage, because it takes into account points and other credit costs. The APR allows homebuyers to compare different types of mortgages based on the annual cost for each loan. ARM—adjustable rate mortgage. LTV—loan to value. MI—mortgage insurance. NA—not available. NQ—rate not quoted. Lenders, to be listed in this paid column, call 1-800-CNS-9525. To calculate your exact mortgage payments using our electronic payment calculator and for extensive mortgage, real estate, and consumer financial information, including tips and definitions of terms please visit our website at www.cnsweb.com Copyright 1999 Consumer News Systems

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You're driving among neighbors.

Please drive neighborly.

Happy Thanksgiving from Hills Newspapers

BUSD TIDINGS

BY ANA LUISA QUINONEZ

For more BUSD information or photographs to the Berkeley Voice by 5 p.m. please fax them in the following week's newspaper. Phone (510) 339-4066, Fax (510) 339-4066, or preferably, e-mail: aguinonez@cttimes.com

BERKELEY PTA COUNCIL: www.bpta.simplenet.com
BHS PTSA NEWSLETTER: www.bhs.berkeley.k12.ca.us
BUSD ON THE WEB: www.berkeley.k12.ca.us
SUBSCRIBE TO BHS EMAIL-TREE: cbhs@idiom.com

BUSD ADMINISTRATION 644-6504

2000-2001 SCHOOL VISITATION HOURS

The BUSD welcomes families new to the district for visits to all its elementary schools on Tuesday and Thursday mornings through Dec. 2 and from Jan. 11 to March 23. Enrollment for Fall 2000 begins in February. When you visit a school, please report first to the front desk to receive any instruction or information specific to the school. Call ahead to be sure the class you wish to visit is not on a special trip.

SCHOOL	HOURS	PRINCIPAL	PHONE
Arts Magnet	9:15 - 11:30	Lorna Skantz-Neil	644-6225
City of Franklin	9:15 - 11:30	Rebecca Penny-James	644-6260
Columbian	9:15 - 11:30	Justin Lustig	644-8110
Cypress	8:45 - 11:00	Laura Monroe	644-6890
Emerson	8:45 - 11:00	Susan McArdle	644-6299
Lincoln	9:15 - 11:30	Nancy Waters	644-6410
Marina	8:45 - 11:00	Patricia Saddler	644-6290
Mountain View	8:45 - 11:00	Cheryl Chinn	644-6313
Westwood	8:45 - 11:00	Kathleen Lewis	644-6300
Woodside Oaks	8:45 - 11:00	Kevin Woodridge	644-6368
Washington	8:45 - 11:00	Rita Kimball	644-6310

JEFFERSON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL 644-6298

CHICKADEE CLUB

Chickadee Club activities have begun. This week and next, children will be taking short walks around the school with science teacher John Poole to learn to recognize the birds that live nearby. They have already seen a total of three different species within a block of the school. There are two levels of Chickadee Club membership: (1) Chickadee - child draws, colors and labels three wild birds that live in Berkeley; (2) Egret - Child draws, colors and labels five wild birds, and completes written research on one bird. Much of this work can be done in class; however, children can work at home as well.

The Chickadee Club engages in several activities out of school: Egret Level 4th and 5th graders are invited to participate in the Audubon Christmas Bird Count, which is this year on December 19. All members are invited to join Mr. Poole or another adult docent for short birdwalks held in the Berkeley area during the winter and spring. Egret Level birders (there may be a grade limitation) are invited to an overnight birding trip at Tilden Park in the spring.

BERKELEY PTA COUNCIL

BERKELEY KIDS READ! NIGHT

Berkeley PTA Council "Cooperative Parent Education Project" presents Berkeley Kids Read! Night. On Thursday, Dec. 2, from 7 to 9 p.m., come join in a free, fun evening and learn skills that can help your child become a better reader. All families welcome. Enjoy free refreshments, door prizes and books, fun reading activities and more. Brought to you by CPEP, the Berkeley PTA Council, "Berkeley Kids Read!" Campaign, the BUSD, League of Women Voters, Berkeley Alliance, Berkeley School Volunteers, Berkeley Youth Alternatives, Berkeley Public Library, La Duki Jubilo, and many more community and youth organizations.

CRAGMONT ELEMENTARY SCHOOL 644-8811

SHOPPING PROCEEDS BENEFIT STUDENTS

A new local shop for children, Cotton Kids, will give Cragmont 15% of all clothing purchases made from Dec. 1 through 15. Cotton Kids sells comfortable clothing made by local moms. Located at 2112B Vine Street, Berkeley, they are open daily, from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Shop Schoolpop.com and support Cragmont. Check out www.schoolpop.com for your Internet shopping and raise money for Cragmont at no extra cost to you. Just go to schoolpop.com, enter Cragmont, Berkeley, CA) and start shopping in Schoolpop's mall of over 100 retailers, such as Amazon, Lands End, eToys and OfficeMax. Once you designate Cragmont and enter a purchase, the retailer rebates the school up to 20% of the purchase price. Cragmont gets a penny each time you use the Snap.com search engine from Schoolpop's web page. There's a special promotion on now: Forward the email you get from your first purchase to cashback@schoolpop.com and Cragmont gets an extra \$10. Offer is for the first 100,000 purchases before Dec. 31, 1999. Spread the word to friends and family nationwide now. Contact Schoolpop liaison, Susan Chan at 843-3482 or susan@xtreme.net with questions.

BERKELEY HIGH SCHOOL 644-6121

SEEKING PARENTS' TIPS AND QUESTIONS ABOUT COLLEGE

A parent subcommittee of BSEP is putting together a BHS Parents' Handbook of College Information. A preliminary version will be readily available at sites in Berkeley within the next few weeks. In addition to all the basic information about pathways to college, course requirements, required tests, requirements for the UC and Cal State systems, and important telephone numbers and Web addresses, the handbook will incorporate the expertise of BHS parents who already have children in college and those going through the process now in two special sections in the handbook: (1) Tips for Parents on Navigating the College Process, and (2) Answers to Frequently Asked Questions. You can help by contributing information for either of these two areas. No names will be used; the parent subcommittee will seek all information for clarity and organization.

The subcommittee is also soliciting Questions that one would like answered NOW about any aspect of the college process. During this school year, the subcommittee will include answers to Frequently Asked Questions in upcoming PTSA newsletters. Please send tips or questions by Dec. 1, to Frances Cohen <frances@leia.ucsf.edu> or by fax at 526-6411. Questions about this project, call 526-6411.

BERKELEY ADULT SCHOOL 644-6784

FREE PARENTING TEENS CLASSES

Parenting a teenager is one of the most challenging tasks in life. It is filled with uncertainty, worry, and frustration as well as concern, love, and the desire to make the right decisions for kids. Berkeley Adult School is offering six Thursday night classes to parents of teens in Berkeley to talk about specific problem areas that troubles deal with: drug and alcohol abuse, communication, sex, depression, violence and anger management. Parents can choose to come to any or all sessions. Classes are free. The sessions will start on Thursday, Dec. 2, from 7 to 8:30 p.m. Berkeley Adult School, 1222 University Avenue, Room 103. These will be informal discussion groups. Facilitator Bonnie Baldwin, will also bring some material to present on the topic of that night. There will be hot beverages and refreshments served. Bonnie Baldwin is a Marriage and Family Therapist (Lic. #MFC 35751) who has been working with teens and their parents for seven years. For more information, call (925) 472-9782 or e-mail cbenteb@jeng.com.

MEETINGS

BERKELEY HIGH SCHOOL, 2246 Milvia St., 644-4500

- Fall Drama Performance, Friday & Saturday, Dec. 3-4, 8 p.m., Little Theatre

- SAT I & II, Saturday, Dec. 4

- Concert Choral, Tuesday, Dec. 14, St. John's, 7:30 p.m.

- African Dance, Tuesday, Dec. 16, Community Theater, 7:30 p.m.

- Orchestra Performance, Friday, Dec. 17, Little Theatre, 7:30 p.m.

CRAGMONT, 830 Regal Road, 644-8811

- Winter Fair Night, Dec. 15

KING, 1781 Rose St., 644-6098

- School Advisory Council, Tuesday, Nov. 30, 9 a.m.

- PTA, Thursday, Dec. 2, 7:30 p.m. Learn more about adolescent literature

from two Berkeley librarians Elizabeth Overmyer and Marge Sussman,

and local bookseller Amy Thomas from Pegasus and Pendragon Book Stores.

- Hepatitis V Vaccinations for 6th graders

- Winter Concert, Tuesday, Dec. 7, 7:30 p.m., auditorium

MALCOLM X, 1731 Prince St., 644-6313

- Winter Concert, Thursday, Dec. 9, 7 p.m. Auditorium. Performance will

include 3rd Grade Rhythm Ensemble, 5th grade Orchestra, Chorus and

Berd and the Hills Project Jazz Band.

- Family Heritage Potluck, Wednesday, Dec. 15, 6 p.m. Auditorium. Book

your MX sweatshirt and t-shirt sales, and performance by students.

LAUREL, 2955 Claremont Avenue, 644-6410

- Quilting Bee, Thursday, Dec. 30, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Call for details.

LOOKING AHEAD - NO SCHOOL

Friday, November 26 - Thanksgiving Day Holiday (K-12)

Monday, Dec. 20 through Friday, Dec. 31 - Winter Recess (K-12)

2 Announcements

NOW OPEN The Tupperware Store, in East County Mall, Down Sweet Dreams Alley. (925) 837-7291

4A Found

4A1 Black, long hair male, 1/4 tall found Bofica Rd. Danville. (925) 837-7291

OAT, lg, blk, shy & scared, 11/25, Alcatraz & Benvenue, Oakland. (510) 653-5377

CHOW Red, Indian Rd./A. Safe Ave. Piedmont on 11/15. 510-836-3785

DOG German Shepherd, 10 mo. found 11/19 on Stone Valley Rd. Conville/San Ramon. 925-284-3541

DOG Large Black Male, red shock collar, on Devon in P.H. (925) 944-0901

DOG Lg, male Pitbull; w/ht & tan markings. Sweet Call to (925) 744-2871

DOG/Mix 1 yr old, male, tan, floppy, reddish brown, friendly, good natured, 11/22/99. 925-8590

GERMAN Shepherd, found Danville, approx. 10 mo-12 mo. old. (510) 547-0406

LABRADOR blk, male, under 1 yr, red collar, found in Lafayette Moraga Bike trail 11/18. 510-836-3785

LABRADOR young male, in Garretson Area. (510) 245-7754

LANCASHIRE Heeler or Blue Lab, tan, male, 8 ft. & 4 in. Antioch. (925) 778-6496

PITBULL nice drk brown, 11/21. 510-836-3785

TABBY KITTEN 3/4 tall. Found in creek behind shopping center. Diablo, Calif. Danville. (925) 837-7291

4B Lost

\$2000 REWARD! for return of dunes by, male, golden retriever, 1 yr old, 11/18. 510-836-3785

DOG, Chocolate Lab mix, 1 yr, med-size, male, purple collar, hairless patch on nose. Albany, Hwy (510) 628-7151

DOG, Sm blk w/ht, long hair 11/21. Treat Oak Grove area. We love her very much please call (925) 681-0102

DOG Spotted Terrier, small fem, no tail. Black some brown & white 5/06/97-9676

JEWELRY 2 rings & gold pendant, Rosemont Shop, Ctr. 11/18. Reward 925/228-8613

J-HASA APSO max, fem, 10 yrs, blk w/whit markings. East County Mall, 11/19. Reward (925) 240-6912

LIAGA APSO, white, female, 15 yrs old, blind, disoriented. Antioch (925) 757-5265

LOVEBIRD, peafowl, on Nov. 8th, near Concord H.S. Please call (925) 682-4116

PARROT, African Gray, solid gray winged tail, Canyon Crest Park, San Ramon, 11/21. Reward - family Heartbroken 510/881-4036, 925/735-1524

POMERANIAN, sm, all blk w/whit, under chin, 6-8 yrs Reward. No questions asked 925/674-1348

RING, wide gold wedding band, rose design, oval setting, on Rosemont or Safeway Countrywood. Engraved Reward (925) 939-4018

4B Lost

TABBY black & gray, male, neutered. Lost Fair Division Pleasanton (925) 846-2815

YELLOW LAB, Male 18 mo. missing since 11/19, Rodeo area. (510) 799-1088

200 Schools & Instruction

Over the Rainbow Preschool

The alternative to large preschools. An intimate group of 12 children in a private home in the wooded hills of Montclair. A credentialed kindergarten teacher with 30 years of experience, along with her partner, offer a stimulating, educational and nurturing environment.

(510) 339-2366

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MEDICAL ASSISTANT

PHLEBOTOMY Boston Read Co. CA. req. #3901291. 1-800-201-1141

203 Central Contra Costa County Child Care

ARE YOU looking for that up-beat fun loving personal child care? Mon-Fri 8:30-5:30 P.H. #70211799. (925) 682-0413

WARM & CARING

LOVING DAYCARE Fun pre-school, 2 Yr. (925) 971-9430 #70215200

204 East Contra Costa County Child Care

AGES 2-4, open Mon-Fri 8:30 A.M. Brentwood #70721353 925/634-5449

ANTIOCH 3-5, why/daily drop-in, newborn/toddlers #73401857 (925) 757-7878

NEW YRS. EVE/DAY

Appl. Brentwood plus daily openings for 2 yrs.-schl. age #73401857 925/634-5449

THE TOT STOP DAYCARE 2 mod-3 yrs. 6-8 p.m. F/T. P/T. Preschl activities Oakley #73401857 925/634-5449

205 San Ramon Valley/Southern Alameda County Child Care

4 SEASONS DAYCARE 0-12 Alameda C/P/T/1st. 925/73402112 (925) 855-8285

205A Alameda County Child Care

HOT breakfast, lunch & some care. All ethnic cultures welcome. Dinner avail. #73401857 925/634-5449

207 West Contra Costa County Child Care

QUALITY childcare 24 hr Mon-Sat. Pre-schl/meals/snacks #703400564 510-222-6400

250 Help Wanted

ACCOUNTANT: Dynamic software implementation specialist-temp assignment Non-Profit exposure pref. Fax Resume 415-454-7785

250 Help Wanted

ACCOUNTANT ENTRY-LEVEL STAFF National transportation service company seeks entry level staff accountant for its Walnut Creek Region. Accounting Center Successfull candidate must have BA/BS in accounting and a minimum of 1 to 2 years work experience in financial accounting. Computer skills are required. Knowledge of Microsoft Office and Platinum preferred. We seek a team player with strong organizational, communication and interpersonal skills. Please send resume and salary history to: Human Resources Manager, 201 North Civic Drive, Suite 150, Walnut Creek CA 94596

ACCOUNTANT

Established local CPA firm seeks CPA or CPA candidate with 2+ yrs exp. Enthusiastic, outgoing, team player, excellent communication skills. Full-time, part-time, flex time or per diem available. Forward resumes to: Ivy via email 925-954-1088, or Kring BB-and-R.com or mail 1675 N. California Blvd. 3rd Fl. Walnut Creek CA 94596. Please visit our web site BB-and-R.com

ACCOUNTANT-FIT exp. CPA Tax Reviewer. A RESULTS firm. Must be enthusiastic & eager to accept responsibility. Full range benefits and flex time. Partnership opportunity for the right candidate. Send resume to: Ivy via email 925-954-1088, or Kring BB-and-R.com or mail 1675 N. California Blvd. 3rd Fl. Walnut Creek CA 94596. Please visit our web site BB-and-R.com

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Pilot program helps poor land American Dream: home owners

Federal Home Loan Bank starts assistance program for low-income buyers

By Psyche Pascual
CONTRA COSTA NEWSPAPERS

The Federal Home Loan Bank of San Francisco has set aside \$500,000 for a pilot program that will boost the funds low-income buyers set aside to buy a house, officials announced last Thursday.

Starting in mid-January, the bank will contribute \$3 for every \$1 a con-

sumer saves — or up to \$10,000 — in what it calls an Individual Development and Empowerment Account.

Consumers can open accounts with the help of nonprofit housing groups and participating lenders in Arizona, California and Nevada. If the program goes well, the bank may raise the yearly amount to \$1.5 million.

"We hope to have more focus to the program and a little bit more money," said Jim Yacenda, vice president and community investment officer for the bank.

Co-owned by many of the credit unions and banks who finance home

FOR MORE INFORMATION

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- Pam Salsedo, 510-287-5353 x726,
- George Loew 510-287-5353 x436

loans in the Bay Area, the Federal Home Loan Bank last year doled out \$26 million for other affordable housing programs.

It also financed about 40 percent of home loans member institutions issued in Alameda County, for example, including those issued by

Kaiperm Federal Credit Union, which serves workers employed by Kaiser Permanente hospitals, and Washington Mutual. Data for Contra Costa County were not available.

In the high-priced Bay Area, such savings accounts can make a difference in a consumer's ability to buy

a house and qualify for certain loans, Yacenda said.

Consumers are eligible if they make less than 80 percent of the area's median income. A consumer who saves only \$1,000 of his or her own money, for example, will get \$3,000 in extra funds to contribute for a down payment or closing costs for a house. Part of the program involves teaching participants economic skills, he said.

The program is modeled after individual development accounts the Oakland-based East Bay Asian Local Development Corp., a nonprofit

affordable housing agency, to help local residents start a business or save for a house.

One of the group's members, Adeeba Deterville, 37, moved to San Diego to participate in a business program. In the meantime, Deterville decided to account to buy a house.

Counselors at the bank can help clean up her credit and payment assistance.

More

FROM PAGE B1

largely single-task or "dedicated" rooms in which to do their work, according to Wirthlin Worldwide, a Virginia-based opinion-research firm.

But for those who are fitting a home office into a bedroom, playroom or guest room, it's got to be good news that manufacturers are making pieces that can work with their surroundings.

Just look at Sauder's new North Pointe Collection, which includes a computer work center in the same casual adaptation of the Arts and Crafts style as an entertainment center in the line.

"Only a couple of our office groupings are stand-alone groupings," said marketing director Susan Dountas. "The others will match something, so you can do a whole room or a whole house."

Modularity is another trend for the furniture. "People may want to start small and put basic computer equipment on it," said Dountas. "As they add scanners or a printer, they'll need more surface." Modular furniture can offer flexibility for the future.

You'll see modular options and hear more about style when you visit your local Staples. At the store in Philadelphia, the top-selling piece is Dorel's Corner Workcenter, which features a contemporary look and lots of storage.

"A lot of college kids are buying this," said Carlos Astacio, who manages furniture there. "They like the black finish against the oak, and they really love the price," he said, referring to the \$149.99 tag. "I sell about eight to 10 of these a week."

So how has the furniture changed in recent years?

"It's sturdier, more modern, and there's more variety," said Stan Kulikowski, a Staples district manager

visiting the store on his rounds. "Now, you can special-order finishes and fabrics."

"It's easier to assemble," added Astacio. "The pieces are predrilled and lettered" for easy coordination.

And for those who aren't adept with a power drill and a hammer, Staples will recommend a firm to help.

Ready to go

An eye for hard-working design is also apparent at Ikea, where virtually all the home-office furniture is ready-to-assemble. Browse the catalog and you'll notice an emphasis on sleek, clean lines that work in a variety of settings.

Two full pages of the current catalog offer solutions to awkward spaces. A crescent-shaped desk is touted as a perfect fit in a corner; another setup capitalizes on space under a staircase. Farther along in the catalog, a \$99 workstation is pictured that folds up into a box and rolls

away on casters.

Behind these pieces are consumer input and extensive product development, says Tracey Kelly, who is in charge of home-office furniture for the company's North American operation.

"So the chairs don't look as if you're in your living room and they were dropped in from outer space."

But not all customers find what they like in stores, even in ones that carry pricier furniture. In those cases, an interior designer may be able to generate more options.

When she wanted to fit a home office into a contemporary bedroom with lots of custom work, Marcy Kaiser turned to Lori Gayman, owner of Manayunk's Cosmopolitan Home store.

Why put her office in the bedroom?

"Everyone had claimed everything else in the house," Kaiser explained. She and her husband, Bill, and their three children, ages 11, 5, and 3

months, share a house in Maple Glen.

Plenty of files

What Kaiser needed was room to organize family records as well as her volunteer work for Children's Hospital of Philadelphia.

The desk of her dreams awaited on the cover of Architectural Digest. "I said, 'I want this desk,'" she told Gayman. "She said, 'Do you know it probably costs \$7,000?'"

"I said, 'I don't want this desk.'"

But Gayman found a local craftsman to reproduce the piece, which resembles stacked milk crates done in maple wood, for a fraction of the cost.

Now, Kaiser says of her office retreat: "It's a very nice place to sit for five whole seconds before someone finds me."

Gayman, who has created home offices in many different rooms, notes that lately she's gotten several requests to create a space for the computer where the entire family can congregate.

"We're embarking on a new office with a large desk and I could put a family of five in there and all see the computer games together," she says. "It's where the home office is." Ikea has picked up on the trend, along around which to build her laptop, is showing a little work while her own PC.

All in the family

It's a setup not unlike the Bryn Mawr, Pa., home of Peggy Maloney, who has a family room, an entertainment center and a workstation shares space with the least bit out of place. "The best part is everyone is accessible to all five of us," she says. "My husband says the children are playing games," said Peggy.

Comfort

FROM PAGE B3

site with good drainage. This will help keep contents dry by allowing for a better seal at the roof and around doors.

If the shed you buy does not come with a floor, your best bet is to pour a concrete slab. If concrete is a little too permanent for you,

sheet plastic with pea gravel or plywood on pressure-treated sleepers are reasonable alternatives.

Pittsburg contractors Morris and James O. Carey can be heard Saturday mornings on KSFO 560 AM. Write the Carey Brothers, c/o the Associated Press, 50 Rockefeller Plaza, New York, NY 10020-1666, or e-mail them at careybro@onthehouse.com. Their Web site is at www.onthehouse.com.

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SPORTS

VJ

Friday, November 26, 1999

Section C

Volleyball Albany sweeps Piedmont to win NCS crown [C2]

Arts Disturbing Irish 'Queen' a royal success [C3]

Vasquez qualifies for state meet

St. Mary's High sophomore finishes second in race

By Peter Mentor

Rudy Vasquez showed just how strong he and his league are when he finished second at the North Coast Section Meet of Champions at Hayward High last Saturday.

The St. Mary's High School sophomore cruised over the 3.1-mile Hayward High course in 16 minutes, 29 seconds in the NCS Division 4 race to qualify for the CIF State Meet this Saturday at Woodward Park in Fresno.

The only other runner fast than Vasquez in the division was Piedmont High junior Tom Phelps, a fellow Alameda Contra Costa Athletic League runner who traveled the rolling course in 16:09.

Piedmont, the defending champions in that division, ended up winning the meet with 60 points. Dublin placed second with 69 points and both teams advanced to the state meet.

Vasquez was the top state qualifier not on a winning team. He easily beat out third-place Marcos Gomez (16:34) and pre-race favorite Chris Lanese (16:40), who placed fourth.

In fact, the North Coast program barely mentioned either Phelps or Vasquez, showing just how much weight goes into the Alameda Contra Costa Athletic League.

See VASQUEZ, Page C2



ST. MARY'S BRIDGET DUFFY leads Alhambra's Jessica Neu during the Meet of Champions at Hayward High. Duffy and her team won the race.

Lady Panthers run to section title

Duffy wins Division 4 race and St. Mary's surprises the field at Meet of Champions

By Peter Mentor

Imagine how great was it to be in school Monday morning at St. Mary's High after a weekend of incredible success.

The girls cross country team stunned the field by winning the North Coast Section Meet of Champions Division 5 title. The football team upset undefeated El Cerrito High to stay alive in the NCS 2A football playoffs. Even the debate team won for goodness sakes.

And how great must it have been to be Bridget Duffy, the standout St. Mary's sophomore who continues to amaze everyone after winning the NCS Meet of Champions Div. 4 cross country title by running the rolling 3.1-mile course at Hayward High in 18 minutes, 53 seconds on Saturday.

Duffy's time was the fourth fastest of the day in all five divisions. She beat out 146 girls in her race alone and 431 girls overall from all over this section of the state. The same girl who missed qualifying for state by one place as a freshman is now headed to the CIF State Meet this Saturday at Woodward Park in Fresno.

Joining Duffy will be the entire St. Mary's varsity girls team on the heels of an impressive upset victory on Saturday. How big was the win? Campolindo and Miramonte were ranked Nos. 1 and 2 in the section, while St. Mary's was a mere

"It was like poetry in motion the way she ran."

— St. Mary's coach Denis Mohun

footnote in the pre-race program.

While those two teams were looking at each other, the Lady Panthers sneaked into position and captured their first-ever NCS title after just four years as a program.

"They've been battling each other all year," said St. Mary's coach Denis Mohun of Campolindo and Miramonte. "That's the first time we've ever beaten those two teams. I think we surprised Piedmont and Alameda in the Alameda Contra Costa Athletic League. It was an excellent way to go into the Meet of Champions."

Duffy's race was a work of art. The young runner is quite mature in her strategy and she ran her race to perfection.

Duffy went out with Alhambra's Jessica Neu and the two hung back from the front of the pack for most of the race. As the race progressed, the two passed all the pretenders. Finally, Duffy pulled ahead at the two-mile mark on the pave-

See LADY PANTHERS, Page C2

Panthers stun Gauchos

EC's dream season ends in playoffs

By Scott Strain

EL CERRITO — The St. Mary's football team had something to prove and boy, did the Panthers prove it.

As everybody in the East Bay now knows, the unseeded Panther shocked No. 1 seed El Cerrito 13-6 last Friday night in the North Coast Section 2A Championships. St. Mary's (7-4) now goes to play No. 2 De Anza (9-2) in El Sobrante tonight at 7.

St. Mary's actually started the same way it did against El Cerrito when the two teams played a few weeks ago. Trestin George scored on a 49-yard run with just 1:14 gone in the game. Pat Barry kicked the extra point, and it was 7-0.

The last time the two teams met, St. Mary's scored first on a Pat Barry field goal, but the Panthers gave up 34 points and lost 34-9.

But in this game, the first time the Gauchos had the ball, they drove to the Panthers' 6-yard line where quarterback Joe McBride missed on a fourth-down pass to Jason Washington in the end zone. St. Mary's couldn't move and punted to its own 31. Certainly it was time for the Gauchos to put St. Mary's in its place.

McBride drove his team down to the 15, but on fourth-and-7, but he overthrew Washington in the end zone and the Panthers took over on downs.

It was apparent right then and there that this was a different game, and if the Gauchos were going to win it, someone would have to really step up because the team was playing in a daze. In the end, no one did.

Three things doomed El Cerrito in this game — the St. Mary's defense, the lack of a kicking game, and tepid support from the fans on the Gaucho's home field.

St. Mary's was able to befuddle McBride with stunts and coverages and held him to just 10 completions in 24 attempts for 11 yards. The Panthers also intercepted him three times, two of them in crucial situations.



ST. MARY'S TRESTIN GEORGE (2) tries to elude El Cerrito's Laronn Gray in an first-round playoff game Friday. George scored a touchdown in the Panthers' 13-6 win at El Cerrito.

El Cerrito running back David Rose ran for 113 yards, but the Panthers were able to jam Okoro Oniyke and allow him only 46 yards. Oniyke's up-field thrusts absolutely devastated the Panthers in the first game.

Three things doomed El Cerrito in this game: the St. Mary's defense, the lack of a kicking game, and tepid support from the fans on the Gaucho's home field.

See PANTHERS, Page C2

St. Mary's faces rival De Anza

Dons looking to avenge loss tonight in NCS semifinals

By Scott Strain

When the St. Mary's High School football team travels up to El Sobrante tonight to take on De Anza in a North Coast Section 2A semifinal game, the shoe will be on the other foot.

The Panthers (7-4) got this far with a stunning 13-6 victory over previously undefeated El Cerrito (10-1) last Friday night on the Gauchos' home field. That was in retaliation for El Cerrito's earlier 34-9 dumping of St. Mary's during the regular Alameda Contra Costa Athletic League season.

Now it's the Panthers' turn to feel some revengeful wrath. The Dons (9-2) dropped a 31-30 verdict at St. Mary's two weeks ago in the final game of the regular season and De Anza would like nothing more than to put the kibosh on the Panthers' title aspirations.

De Anza has one more motivation besides drilling St. Mary's to win this game. Long-time head coach Greg Ochs has announced his retirement after the season. The Dons would like to give Ochs a chance to coach at least two more games. St. Mary's coach Dan Shaughnessy, still beaming over his team's victory over El Cerrito at the school's open house on Sunday, was less than enthusiastic about meeting De Anza again.

"I guess we have to go up there and play them," he said. "I'd rather it be down here, but they are the higher seed."

The Dons are the No. 2 seed in the playoffs and the Panthers are No. 8, even though St. Mary's beat De Anza in the head-to-head league matchup.

De Anza defeated Campolindo 24-14 in another NCS first-round game at home before a small crowd Friday night. The Dons rushed for 247 yards and got touchdown runs of 6 yards from Rodney Burton and 3 yards from Ronnie Wallace. Burton also caught a 19-yard touchdown pass from Antranik Avedikian. Burton rushed for 130 yards on 15 carries as the Dons gained 247 yards on the ground.

See REMATCH, Page C2



EL CERRITO'S DAVID ROSE looks for an opening against St. Mary's defense last Friday night.

MARK DUFRÉNE

Panthers

FROM PAGE C1

El Cerrito had no place kicking game. After Rose scored on a 40-yard run with 11:02 left in the fourth quarter, Justin Preston sacked McBride on a two-point conversion attempt.

Rematch

FROM PAGE C1

Achilles' heel

The Dons almost stopped themselves with penalties, getting flagged 21 times for 183 yards. Rashad Dodd-Masters had a 50-yard touchdown run called back and three penalties were pass interference calls. De Anza had five long gains or first-down runs nullified due to penalties.

If the same thing happens again St. Mary's could exploit the situation and turn the Dons' frustrations

A kick would have tied the game and perhaps sent it into overtime.

Also, the Gauchos drove inside St. Mary's 10 at least four times, and a short field goal would have helped their chances immeasurably.

And finally, there were very few El Cerrito fans at the game. It had rained earlier in the day and the site was soggy, but for a playoff game it

was very ill-attended. A small but very vocal Spanish-speaking contingent attempted to keep up the enthusiasm, but they were yelling into a vacuum. St. Mary's had more rooters on its side of the field.

All indications, both on and off the field, suggested that El Cerrito thought it had this one in the bag. Someone forget to notify St. Mary's.

against them.

The Panthers defense will have to do the same as it did against El Cerrito: stuff the running game and force Avedikian to beat them with the pass. The Dons' quarterback threw for 146 yards against the Panthers, but only completed eight of 20 passes.

Trestin George, who rushed for 268 yards against De Anza and 200 versus El Cerrito, will have to have another big game if the Panthers are to win. There is simply no way around it.

One more thing to consider: De Anza scored five touchdowns against St. Mary's but failed to convert any PAT attempts. In fact, Chris Dunbar of St. Mary's made the play of the

game when he tackled Avedikian on a potential game-winning two-point conversion attempt with just nine seconds left in the game. Lack of conversions cost the Dons their only two defeats of the season.

But now, De Anza has a kicker Hector Jimenez nailed all three PATs and had a 24-yard field goal against Campolindo. He could be the difference.

"We're eager to play St. Mary's again," Burton was quoted as saying. "We've just got to do what we do best - and stop the penalties."

One way or another, lightning will strike twice Friday night. It just remains to be seen on whose side of the field it hits.

Lady Panthers

FROM PAGE XX

ment just before the dirt track that leads to a gently-sloping hill.

"I was going to go out with the second place girl (Neu) and take off at the hill," said Duffy. "I decided I could go earlier."

Duffy picked it up, took a lead and held it the rest of the way home. Neu (19:15) finished second, some 22 seconds behind Duffy.

"It was like poetry in motion the way she ran," said Mohun of Duffy. "Bridget is constantly evaluating and learning. Her game plan was to go out with Jessica Neu because we knew she was one of the top runners in Div. 4."

Team plan

Mohun had a game plan for his entire team. After surveying the field of teams before the race, he knew his top runner Duffy would have to finish in the top three overall, while his No. 2 would need to be in the top 17, his No. 3 in the top 22, his No. 4 in the top 27 and his No. 5 in the top 32 to score around 100 points.

That's just what they did, give or take some places. After Duffy's win, Sayaka Matsumoto placed 20th in 21:02, Chrissy Chavez was 22nd in

21:07, Florinda Larkin notched 26th in 21:12 and Chelsea Torgersen-Bell was 29th in 21:17.

Those places were reduced some when runners form incomplete teams were factored out of the team scoring. Matsumoto dropped to 17th, Chavez was 19th, Larkin was 22nd and Torgersen-Bell was 25th. Final score 84.

Campolindo placed second with 99 points, followed by Aracata (113 points) in third and Miramonte (115 points) finished fourth. Other local teams had Piedmont High (176 points) in sixth and Bishop O'Dowd (180 points) in eighth.

Piedmont's Mary Phelps placed sixth overall and was the last individual qualifier for the state meet.

Phelps was actually helped by Duffy, who was the only runner in the top six overall to be on a winning team. Overall the top five individuals not on a winning team qualify for state. The Piedmont senior was fortunate that her main rival during the league season didn't count in the state qualifier for individuals.

Goals met

One thing St. Mary's won't be able to do is sneak into the state meet. Not after winning North Coast and certainly not against Campolindo.

That won't matter too much, who

consider running at state icing on a wonderful section title cake.

"We're just enjoying the North Coast championships," said Mohun. "We've reached our goals for the whole season. We want to enjoy the championship and get some experience at state and run relaxed."

The team has a bright future and this is one step toward that future. Among the top five runners Duffy has two more years, Matsumoto has one year and Torgersen-Bell has two more years as well.

Only seniors Chavez and Larkin, who provided a lot of leadership for the team this year running in the Nos. 3 and 4 spots, will be gone.

Coming up in the ranks are freshman Nicole Shanahan, who ran her first 3-mile race ever at North Coast, and junior Bria Maguire.

Shanahan ran on the frosh/soph team at the league meet and she was brought up to run at North Coast. She placed 58th in 22:18, which is an excellent time for a first effort in such a big race. Shanahan's experience at state as a freshman could be just what the team needs to step up in the next four years.

Maguire had back problems all year and she gutted out the race to finish 85th in 22:02. Hopefully she can get healthy for her senior year next fall.

Vasquez

FROM PAGE C1

letic League within the section.

Lanese, along with Arcata's Adam Foote (17:22, 19th) and Clay Jones (17:58, 38th), and Gomez were highlighted as favorites. Phelps and Windsor High's Emmanuel Vasquez (17:50, 36th) were labeled "factors" in the race.

Rudy Vasquez was the last of four runners listed as "other strong runners." So much for prognosticators.

St. Mary's scored 98 points and finished third as a team. The Panthers were getting over illness prior to the league championships and did-

n't quite get it all together North Coast.

Panthers senior James Ross placed 18th in 17:21, while teammates juniors Sean Geraghty (17:34, 23) and Nick Maniatis (17:37, 25th) came in next. Senior Denye Versher (17:44), a track runner who is competing in cross country, ran well in 30th place.

St. Mary's sophomore Greg Williams (18:01, 42nd) and senior Robert Howe (18:53, 73rd) also ran.

Cougars run

Albany wrapped up its season at North Coast in the Div. 4 race as well.

The young Cougars placed 24th out of 25 teams and are looking at the future.

"It's promising for next year," said Albany coach Mark Hutt. "We have three sophomores and three juniors and I have some young people coming up from the junior high."

Albany scored 620 points, beating out Cardinal Newman with 669 points.

Albany junior Spencer K'burg (18:59) paced the Cougars in 75th place out of 170 runners.

Sophomore Justin Somudio (20:21, 130th) and junior Aaron Johnson Albany (20:42, 139th) were next, followed by senior Anthony Camargo (20:46, 141), sophomore Munyoni Kiongua (21:31, 156th) and junior Dylan Cheasty (21:36, 157th). Junior Matt Fujikawa (23:44, 170th) also completed the course.

No. 1 Cougars breeze to NCS volleyball title

Albany wins its third section championship in four years by quickly downing league rival Piedmont

By Mike Wood

SAN PABLO — The outcome of the North Coast Section Division 4 girls volleyball championship match seemed inevitable for Albany High School during most of Saturday's match.

But when the Cougars completed a 15-4, 15-2, 15-7 win over Piedmont at Contra Costa College, they celebrated like they had won a five-game cliffhanger.

Evidently the players take a lot of pride in their program and they have a good reason. The championship is Albany's third in four years.

"We wanted to beat them and get this over with," Cougars middle blocker Alison West said. "We were really consistent and played our type of game."

No. 1 seed Albany (38-5) beat Piedmont for the third time this month, having also swept the Highlanders in an Alameda Contra Costa Athletic League match and in the A-CAL playoff final.

The Cougars got the No. 2 seed in the NorCal playoffs and were scheduled to play Sutter High (22-3) at Berkeley High Tuesday night.

"We did a tremendous job keeping focused yesterday in practice," Cougars coach Konrad Ott said. "We had to keep in mind with Piedmont that this was the NCS championship, not a league match and not a league final."

Albany's players were anticipating a championship meeting with Campolindo for the third consecutive season. But second-seeded Campolindo lost to Ursuline-Santa Rosa in the quarterfinals and Piedmont (28-5) beat the Bears in the semifinals.

The Highlanders took an early 4-2 lead, but soon it was forgotten as Albany scored the final 13 points of the first game.

The outcome became more apparent as the Cougars scored the first 13 points of the second game. West made three impressive kills and two ferocious blocks during that span. The junior finished with six kills and two blocks.

"(West) had the best match of her life tonight," Ott said. "She's playing the back row and she has worked hard to earn her spot there."

Lindsey Marshall had five of her 11 kills in the first game. Theresa Es-

"We wanted (Piedmont) to win this over with. We were really consistent and played our game."

Albany came into the match with its sights set on the NCS championship. The Cougars won the quarterfinals the way they won the championship.

Lizzie Wertz had three blocks and four aces in the Highlanders.

"Albany attacked and their ball control was phenomenal," said Piedmont coach Anderson. "But we were from getting anything out of it."

SPORTS BRIEFS

Little League Signups

El Cerrito Youth Baseball is accepting registration for boys & girls 7 to 18 years old for the upcoming season.

Registration will take place on Saturday, Dec. 18 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Harding Park Clubhouse 7115 C Street in El Cerrito or you can pick up a registration packet at the El Cerrito Community Center 7007 Mooser Lane, El Cerrito.

Fees for El Cerrito residents range from \$95-\$120. Non-residents \$110-

\$135. Tryouts will be held in January and the season begins March 5. For information call 510 527-5603.

Soccer

Albany High School graduate Annie Izaki has been selected to the Vassar College soccer team. Izaki is a junior at Vassar.

Youth basketball

Berkeley Youth Alternatives is holding youth coed basketball leagues every Saturday. The peewee league is for players 6-7. A second

league is open to players 8-10. Fees are \$12. Call 845-9010.

The Piedmont Recreation Department needs referees for basketball programs. Pay from \$10-\$13 per hour. Call Lenny Parker at 527-1111.

Coaching

Bishop O'Dowd is seeking a head coach for junior varsity soccer. If interested call the director Mike Bowler at 527-1111.

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Arts

Disturbing Irish 'Queen' a royal success

By Pat Craig

One of theater's most compelling attributes is the ability to shock and surprise. And, in that, the Berkeley Repertory Theatre's production of "The Beauty Queen of Leenane" succeeds wildly. It is a stunning show, an angry, bittersweet battle of wits that cuts deep and lingers, disturbingly, in your mind for some time.

The show, directed by Richard Seyd, turns impoverished rural Ireland into an almost alternate uni-

REVIEW

■ **WHAT:** "The Beauty Queen of Leenane" by Martin McDonagh

■ **WHERE:** Berkeley Repertory Theatre, 2025 Addison St., Berkeley

■ **WHEN:** 8 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays-Saturdays; 7 p.m. Wednesdays; 2 p.m. Thursdays, Saturdays and Sundays; and 7 p.m. Sundays through Jan. 7

■ **HOW MUCH:** \$33-\$48.50

■ **CALL:** 510-845-4700

verse, creating a damp, oppressive atmosphere in which to spin this tale of desperate people, clinging to the slightest strands of hope, and trying to make something out of lives that are frustratingly stunted by both the limitations of those living them and the stultifying territory in which they live.

There is, throughout, a hopelessness to the straits of Meg Folan and her middle-aged daughter, Maureen. But, within that is a sometimes-charming, sometimes-dark humor, used by the two women as well as the two other characters in the play, Pato and Ray, to combat the impoverished condition in which they are all forced to exist.

And, not far from the surface, infused in different ways in each of the characters, is a horrible, almost apocalyptic rage, something that ranges far beyond anger and gives the piece

See QUEEN, Page C4



BRANDON KARRER AND ANGELA PATON star in the powerful Berkeley Repertory Theatre production of "The Beauty Queen of Leenane."

Saxophonist Cohea back to jazz roots with tribute

By Andrew Gilbert

Well traveled tenor saxophonist Kent Franklin Cohea presents his Tribute to Dexter Gordon at Yoshi's in Oakland on Monday, Nov. 29.

A student of Joe Henderson, Cohea has played in a wide range of situations, from the Don Ellis Orchestra and David Sanborn to Bobby McFerrin, Al Jarreau and Maria Muldaur. For the past two decades he's kept a low profile on the Bay Area jazz scene, working "legitimate" gigs to support his family, but lately he's been returning to his jazz roots.

Cohea first performed the Dexter tribute at Jazz at Pearl's last year and was gratified by the enthusiastic reception. "I was surprised at how

See COHEA, Page C4

On their toes in Berkeley

ANN GREENE (left) will play the Sugar Plum Fairy and Berkeley's Alex Ketley (right) will play Sugar Plum Cavalier in Berkeley City Ballet's 26th annual production of "The Nutcracker." The show, which runs Dec. 11-19, will play at the Berkeley Community Theater and the Jackson Theater at Ohlone College in Fremont. Call (510) 841-8921.



ANDY MUGG

An Ichabod for the '90s

By Corey Lyons

In the latest morbid mind trip from director Tim Burton, Ichabod Crane gets a dose of cool.

Burton, who has carved out a distinguished Hollywood career by taking a wrecking ball to conventions ("Edward Scissorhands," "Nightmare Before Christmas," "Sleepy Hollow"), delves into another decidedly dark tale in "Sleepy Hollow."

And Ichabod Crane, the goofy-looking, lanky schoolmaster from Washington Irving's 18th-century ghost story, on which the film is based, is barely recognizable. Crane (Johnny Depp) is now a handsome New York constable, who is summoned to investigate murder in Sleepy Hollow, a soporific farming community in upstate New York.

This version of Crane is handled



JOHNNY DEPP, center, plays Ichabod Crane in Tim Burton's "Sleepy Hollow."

HOT SHEET!

■ Berkeley City Ballet will celebrate its 26th annual production of "The Nutcracker" at 2 p.m. on Saturday, Dec. 11, and Sunday, Dec. 12, at the Berkeley Community Theater, 1930 Alston Way. Tickets \$17 adults, \$13 seniors and children under 12. Call 510-841-8921.

■ UC-Berkeley's Art Museum and Pacific Film Archive presents "Roma/Pacific: The Phoebe International Architectural Competition and the Berkeley Campus, 1896-1930." The exhibit opens Dec. 15.

EVENTS



EDGARDO CAMBON (pictured) of Edgardo & Candela, a salsa band, will perform songs from his new CD "Madre Rumba. Padre Son," at 9 p.m. on Thursday, Dec. 16, at Kimball's East in Emeryville. Tickets \$10. Call 510-658-2555.

Gaia Bookstore

Antoinette Claypoole, Dec. 3, 6-9 p.m. The author will discuss her book "Who Would Unbraid Her Hair: The Legend of Annie Mae."

Shirley Ann Jones, Dec. 3, 8 p.m. The author will discuss her book "Simply Living: The Spirit of The Indigenous People."

"Her Words," Dec. 4, 3 p.m. A poetry reading by women poets.

Workshops — \$3; free if author's book is purchased. 1400 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley. (510) 848-GAIA or (510) 548-4172.

The 2nd Annual Zoolights at the Oakland Zoo

Nov. 26 through Jan. 2. ZooLights features 100 glowing creations built specially for the Oakland Zoo. From a huge neon volcano erupting with light to colorful dinosaurs, lions and tigers and brightly colored birds, the various scenes may be viewed from the Zoolights Trail or from the new Holiday Train. In addition there is a children's carnival area and the "Holiday Village," at the Children's Zoo which has been transformed with gingerbread-men, candy canes, toy soldiers, gum-drop trees and many other goodies all ablaze with holiday colors. Proceeds from ZooLights benefit youth education and animal preservation at the Oakland Zoo.

\$5 general; \$3 children age 2 to 14; free children under age 2; one train ride ticket with each ticket. Daily, 5:30 p.m. to 9 p.m. (weather permitting). Knowland Park, 9777 Golf Links Road exit off Interstate Highway 580, Oakland. (510) 632-9525 or www.oaklandzoo.org

Bay Area Historic House Museums Christmas Activities

The Camrath-Scenford House—Dec. 8 through Dec. 29. This stately, 1876 Italianate-style home is the last Victorian house on Lake Merritt's shore. It's five period rooms will be decorated for Christmas with the highlight being its 12-foot-tall Christmas tree festooned with garlands, handmade cornucopias, antique ornaments, baskets of nuts and American flags. At 14th Street and Lakeside Drive, Oakland. Wednesday, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.; Sunday, 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. \$4 general; \$2 seniors; \$1 juniors age 12 to 18; free children under age 12. (510) 444-1876.

The Cohen Bray House Christmas Tea and Tour—Jan. 2, 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Built for A.A. Cohen in 1884, the elaborate farmhouse contains original family furnishings and will be decorated for the holidays with Christmas trees, garlands and ornaments including a 12-foot-tall tree. Tea sittings are on the hour between

See SLEEPY, Page C4

See EVENTS, Page C4

See MANN, Page C4

BILL MANN
Media Notes

Lee presses on

Work Ethic: Lee Rodgers is the James Brown of local radio. Which might sound funny, considering Lee's a white Midwesterner working for a conservative talk station, KSFO. But the acerbic Rodgers probably logs more office hours than anyone in local radio. But besides being "The Hardest-Working Man in Radio," he's also the wittiest. That is, if you can take his conservative politics, which isn't easy some-

times. Rodgers' morning show starts at 7 on 980 AM. Rodgers, who worked at KGO for a decade before jumping to its sister station (in between, he did a brief stint at KFI's 900 Front Street studios at midnight. That's right — a full six hours before air time. "I don't know how or why he does it," says one KSFO colleague about the popular Rodgers, who can be seen on KSFO's current TV ads (he appears in these with his morning partner, Melanie Morgan). The other day I popped into KSFO's studios to ask Rodgers if he still came in at midnight. "Have I ever given you any reason to think otherwise?" he said with a smile.

Show preparation is one thing — the well-informed Rodgers appears in the wee hours to read the wires, the Web and newspapers — but Rodgers is the extreme. Working light across the hall from Rodgers in KGO's studios is Ronn Owens, who's no slouch in the show-prep department himself (Owens compiles manila folders of press clippings for each guest that are sometimes an inch thick).

Rodgers' Midwestern Protestant work ethic was established long before he joined KSFO, however. In the 1980's, when KGO colleague Sam Eason (who's also now at KSFO) was out on one of his numerous sick days back then, Rodgers would often fill in, then take a break and return to the air three hours later for his own air shift.

And in the days just following the Loma Prieta quake, Rodgers literally lived at the ABC talk station, doing numerous shifts. Rodgers had one leg amputated at the knee after a teenage accident, although I've never heard him mention his disability on the air, presumably because he neither wants nor offers pity. And during those post-quake days, his leg became infected, and Rodgers had to be hospitalized. (Rodgers, despite having one foot, also has a pilot's license — it takes two feet, real or prosthetic, to operate a plane's rudder pedals.)

If you can get by Rodgers' constant, tiresome, but occasionally colorful Clinton- and liberal-bashing and his hatred of taxation and bureaucrats, you'll find many humorous moments on his show.

When Lee gets off politics entirely, he can be devastatingly funny. The other day when the subject of sexual experimentation came up, Rodgers tossed off his funny line: "You know what they say. The first time is research, the second time is perversion."

I understand why Rodgers is so political — KSFO's conservative audience, to a certain extent, expects it, something he acknowledged in an e-mail the other day.

But if the talented and funny Rodgers would just drop the right-wing politics, he would widen and increase his audience. And we need a local alternative to Howard Stern for funny radio during morning commute. The clever, bright — and hard-working — Rodgers could fill the bill.

Political-Incorrectness Update: By the way, after last week's item, Rodgers' traffic guy, "Officer Vic" (a really ex-KNEW morning man [Tom Berner] e-mailed me a friendly note to say he wasn't a liberal hiding in conservative clothing at KSFO after all. "I'm really a liberal," he wrote. The other "L-ent.")

Toyng With Us: And then there's the guy who may well be the hardest-working man on local radio. This month marks the 20th anniversary of tireless KTVU consumer editor Tom Vacar's Great American Toy Test. The Oakland Tribune calls it "the most comprehensive consumer test of toys in the U.S. today." Some 90 major toy manufacturers donate toys for Vacar's review. To test. They're then distributed to 10,000 students (age 2-12) to play with in 36 cities across

Calendar

Contributions to the Community Calendar must be received Thursdays one week prior to publication. Listings are on a no-reserve basis.

Classes

The Van der Zanden Studio, 1025 Cathedral No. 9, offers sculpture classes. 4-week call 843-9445 for additional information.

Turning Point at the YWCA, 2600 Bancroft Way, presents Scribble Time on Tuesdays, by appointment. Scribble Time, a class taught by Anne Levine, has helped people to understand themselves better and to find their focus. Call 848-6370 for additional information.

A CopWatch class takes place every Monday night from 6 to 7:30 p.m. at 1022 Blake St. near Shattuck. Know your rights. The classes are free. Call 548-0425 for additional information.

Berkeley Community Media (BCM), Channel 25, offers affordable classes in video production and editing to Berkeley residents. Free orientations designed to introduce BCM to the public are held on Thursdays, 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. at 2239 Mission Luther King, Jr. Way. For more information call 848-2288 and ask for Frank, John or Sage.

Disaster Preparedness Classes offered by Berkeley's Office of Emergency Services are scheduled as follows: Dec. 4, 9 to 12 a.m. Light Search and Rescue; and Dec. 11 9-12 a.m. Disaster First Aid. All classes are held at the 937 Cedar Street. The classes are open to anyone, 18 or older, who live or work in Berkeley. To register, or for more information, call Joy Ehrlich at 844-8736, ext. 229.

The YWCA offers free orientations of its Turning Point Career Center, 2600 Bancroft Way. The orientations outline the resources available to the public including a variety of workshops held Tuesdays, at 1:30 p.m. For additional information call 548-6370.

Ashkenaz, 1317 San Pablo Ave., offers many dance classes ranging from Afro-Cuban to Kalarjani Dances of India, to West Coast Swing to Lindy Hop and East Coast Swing. The Ashkenaz is a non-profit music and dance community center. Call 525-5054 for additional information.

The Ecology Center, 2530 San Pablo Ave., offers a hands-on workshop for making a simple solar cooker using only sunlight as fuel. Learn basic solar principles and hear how solar cooker benefits people around the world. Cost is \$10 for non-members; \$7.50 for members, plus \$10 for materials. Call 548-2220 for more information and to sign up.

Berkeley Community Media presents classes covering camera techniques, movement, composition of shots, tempo, continuity, editing, sound influence. Screenings will include works of Godard, Wong Kar Wai, Spike Lee, and others. This class is for anyone interested in film, video and the power of the media. Call 848-2288, ext. 810 for additional information.

Life Stories/Collage and Ceramics classes forming at St. John's Senior Center, 2727 College Ave., Tuesday mornings 9 a.m. to noon. All are welcome. Free Sponsored by Berkeley Adult School. Teachers are Diana Bohn and Judith Carroll. Call 845-6830 for additional information.

Contemporary Women's Issues class is forming at the North Berkeley Senior Center, 1901 Hearst St. Free class offered by the Berkeley Adult School, taught by Judith Carroll, MFCC. Friday mornings 10 a.m. to noon. Open to all women 55 or older. Call 644-6107 for additional information.

Dance and Fitness Classes open to all in flamenco, Afro-Brazilian, bellydance, salsa, swing, ballroom, tap, theatre dance, yoga, chi gung, tai chi, aikido, pilates-based body conditioning and more at the YWCA, 2600 Bancroft Way, Berkeley. Drop in fees: \$8-10. Information: 848-6370.

Let's Swing and Jitterbug: 7 p.m. beginning classes, 8 p.m. intermediate; four week dance classes beginning the first Tuesday of the month; Finnish Brotherhood Hall, 1970 Chestnut, Berkeley; Dianna Castillo, 549-3591; \$40 for four classes.

Children

Noted child development expert, Bev Bick, will give a workshop about creative environments for young children on Dec. 1 at the El Cerrito Community Center. Call 526-1916 for additional information.

Nick and his adult companions can explore the University of California Botanical Garden with Docent Lois Paul the last Sunday of every month at 1 p.m. You will visit a section of the Garden that represents a different continent or foreign country, find out what's special about the plants that grow there, and then draw what you see. Call 843-2755 to reserve your space.

"Treasure Hunts" Julia Morgan's kid's treasure hunt program, offers swimming, singing, dancing, acting, and field games as some of its exciting activities. The camp is a two-week session for kids 6-14. Call 883-7023 for additional information.

Health

Charcot Marie Tooth (CMT) support group meets Saturdays bi-monthly at West Berkeley Library, 1125 University Ave. from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. CMT is a neuro-muscular disorder. Call 524-3506 for additional information.

YWCA Health and Community Education drop in classes in dance, fitness, yoga, martial arts and more; University YWCA, 2600 Bancroft Way; 848-6370; \$8-\$10.

Community

The Ecology Center presents a Farmer's Market on Saturday, Dec. 4, 11, and 18 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. There will be organic veggies and fruit, local crafts, and some selling handcrafted gifts, musical instruments, and more. The fair takes place at Martin Luther King, Jr. Civic Center, Center St. at Martin Luther King, Jr. Way. Admission is free. Wheel

chair accessible. For more information call 548-3333.

Holiday shoppers and bargain hunters are invited to the annual Christmas Shopping Spree at the Turnabout Shop, 10052 San Pablo Ave., in El Cerrito beginning Saturday, Nov. 27, 11 a.m. The sale continues through Tuesday, Dec. 14.

Women for Peace celebrates its 38th Anniversary on Sunday, Dec. 5, at 12:30 p.m. with a no host bar and a buffet luncheon at 1 p.m. The event takes place at the Venezia Restaurant, 1799 University Ave. at Grant. Barbara Lee, 9th District Congresswoman, will speak on "United States as a World Leader." Price: \$30. To make reservations, call 655-1867.

The St. Alban's Church presents its 30th Annual Yuletide Tea on Sunday, Dec. 5 at 1501 Washington Ave. Tea, sandwiches, cake and cookies will be served from 2 to 4 p.m. A shopping boutique opens at 1 p.m. with gift items and baked goods. Prizes. Requested donation \$5 for adults, \$2.50 for children. For more information call 525-1716.

Overeaters Anonymous meet Fridays at 1:30 PM at the Northbrae Community Church in Berkeley, 941 The Alameda between Solano and Marin Avenues, in Room 2—the childcare room—parents may bring their children. This organization is for individuals who eat compulsively? For further information, call Katherine at 525-5231.

Toastmasters, do it now. Stand up and say what you mean. Come practice—Tuesday, noon to 1 p.m. at 700 Heinz Ave. Call 883-6708 for additional information.

Civil Rights activists needed. Write the ACLU chapter of Berkeley, Albany, Richmond, and Kensington, P.O. Box 11141, Berkeley, CA, 94701.

"Work Buddies" volunteers needed to perform volunteer work with people in early stage Alzheimer's Disease. Minimum six-month commitment, two to three hours per week. Training provided. Contact Nannette Lipton, 644-8292.

Psychic Healing clinic, 7 to 9 p.m. Mondays; free clinic at the Academy for

Psychic Studies in Berkeley, aura cleansing, stress relief; 1-800-642-9355

SMART project: the Alcohol Research Group in Berkeley is conducting a study to compare the cost and effectiveness of two kinds of substance abuse day treatment: medical model day treatment and social model day treatment. By calling 1-888-249-8802 and agreeing to do three interviews, individuals chosen for the study receive free treatment at existing treatment programs.

The Edible Schoolyard, an organic gardening and cooking program at Berkeley's King Middle School, seeks volunteers to work with students, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Call 558-1335 for information.

English-In-Action lets you make friends from around the world. Volunteer as a conversation partner with a foreign UC scholar/student for one hour a week YWCA, at Berkeley. Call 843-9716.

Women's Daytime Drop-in Center in

See CALENDAR, Page C6

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Sunday, December 5, 1999

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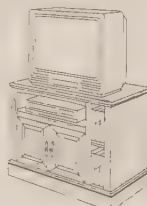
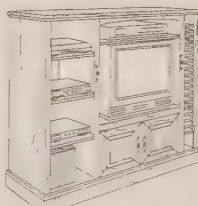
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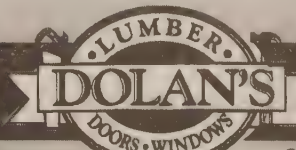
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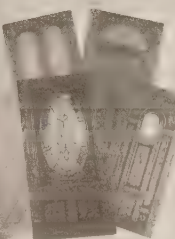
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Calendar

FROM PAGE C5

Berkeley, serving women who are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless, needs volunteers. The Center is open from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Saturday. Volunteers are needed for morning and afternoon shifts. For more information, call 466-5663.

Exhibits

The Berkeley Art Center, 1275 Walnut St., presents an exhibition featuring documents of activities last summer when the Pacific Foundation shut down radio station KPFA on July 14. The exhibition contains over 100 items created from March 31 to present. These artifacts, by local artists such as Jos Sances, John Sheridan, Annie Hallat, Eric Drockner and Steve Lyon, will be on view along with documentary photographs by Scott Bralley, Rebekah Rodriguez, Brenda Prager, Allen Stross and others. "Literature Live," with writers associated with KPFA, including poets Gary Chandler, Jack and Adelle Folley, Rafael Jesus Gonzalez, Adam David Miller, and Susan Stone takes place on Thursday, Dec. 2, 7 p.m. The evening will be hosted by Rob Lipton, the Berkeley Art Center's poetry coordinator. The event is free. Call 644-6893 for additional information.

The Richmond Art Center's, 2540 Barrett Ave., Annual Holiday Arts Festival takes place on Sunday, Dec. 5, from noon to 4 p.m. The free festival includes a full day of activities for the whole family. Handmade crafts sale and fine art auction, free hands on art projects for all ages, a holiday cake will be featured. Call 620-6772 for additional information.

Lewis Suzuki, nationally known artist, continues his open house through Dec. 4, 5, Dec. 11, 12, Dec. 18, 19. Suzuki is well-known for his use of vibrant colors and the range and depth of his subject matter. The hours are 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. The studio is located at 2240 Grant St., corner of Bancroft Way and Grant. Call 849-1427 for additional information.

The UC-Berkeley Art Museum and Pacific Film Archives, 2625 Durant Ave., presents the third Matrix exhibition. "Terisa Fernandez/Matrix 182 supernova" opens Sunday, Dec. 5 and continues through Jan. 30. Fernandez is a New

York-based artist who creates sculptural installations that manipulate the audiences' sense of physical space in relation to architectural form. Call 642-0808 for additional information.

"Window to the Unconscious: Surreal Art at the Close of the 20th Century," an exhibit of paintings, watercolors, and small objects has been extended through Nov. 30. The exhibit, from the collection of Margaret Alafi, is at the Gallery of the Center for Psychological Studies, 1398 Solano Ave., Albany. Included in this mixed-media exhibit are the works of Evelyn Glaubman, Solomon Fagan and Jon Larson. For more information, call 524-0291.

"A Changing Exhibit of New Work," exhibition continues through November at the Strawberry Creek Design Center, 1250 Addison St. #214. The exhibit features the works of Susan Brooks, Carol Shanks, Sherilyn Sharp, and Laurel Fenenga. Gallery hours: Thursdays 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. or by appointment. For more information call 845-2612.

"Snowmen in Summer" a solo exhibition by Carrie Lederer takes place at the John F. Kennedy Arts Annex, 2956 San Pablo Ave., Berkeley. Gallery hours: Monday through Friday, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. For additional information call 649-0499.

Lawrence Hall of Science, continues its new exhibit "The Atoms Family" through January 9. The exhibit explores the complex world of energy and matter. The daily live demonstrations include hands-on activities. The museum is open daily, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Admission is \$6 for adults; \$4 for children seniors and students; \$2 for children 3-6. LHS is located above UC Berkeley campus on Centennial Drive. For information, call 642-5132 or check www.lhs.berkeley.edu

The sixth annual "Women of Color Arts and Crafts Show" takes place on Saturday, Nov. 27 from 10:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at La Pena Cultural Center, 3105 Shattuck Ave. Admission is free. The show presents a group of exhibitors selling their original, hand-crafted work. The show features paintings, clay sculptures, textile, jewelry, quilts decorative functional furniture and wearable art. Call Adalia at 845-0422 for additional information.

An exhibition of exquisite Indian mini-

ature paintings dating from the fifteenth to early twentieth centuries, presented by UC-Berkeley Art Museum and Pacific Film Archive, continues through Nov. 28. Guided tours of the exhibition is offered by UC-Berkeley graduate students on Thursdays at 12:15 p.m. and Sundays at 3 p.m. For further information on these or any other museum programs, call 642-0808.

The Berkeley Potters Guild holds its 28th annual winter holiday sale during the weekends of Nov. 27-28 and Dec. 4-5 and during the entire week of Dec. 11-23. Nineteen Guild members will display current works throughout their complex of open studios. The Guild is located at 731 Jones St. at 4th St., just off the Gilman St. exit of I-80. Call 524-7031 or visit the web site at BerkeleyPotters.com

Alta Bates Medical Center presents work by members of the California Watercolor Association at its Community Art Gallery, 2450 Ashby Ave., Berkeley. The gallery is in the main corridor to the left of the information desk and main entrance. Call 204-4444 for additional information.

New Pieces Gallery presents a list of artists for the year 1999. Located on Solano Avenue, New Pieces is the only gallery which shows quilts and soft cloth sculptures and dolls exclusively. The gallery is open during store business hours: Monday, Wednesday, Friday, and Saturday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Tuesday and Thursday, 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. and Sunday Noon to 5 p.m. except major holidays. Details: 627-6779.

Literary Events

The First Tuesday Magazine Article Reading Group meets Dec. 7 at the South Berkeley Senior Center, 2939 Ellis St. from 1:30 to 2:30 p.m. Space is limited. Lunch at the South Berkeley Senior Center begins at noon. Call 644-6109 to register.

A Discussion and Social group meet monthly, every first and third Tuesday, from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. at the Jewish Community Center, 1414 Walnut Ave. The event is free. "What rules do you believe by, and what is important?" is the topic for its Tuesday Dec. 7 meeting. The event is free, no point of view is pushed. No need to RSVP. For more information

call Robert Berend at 527-5332

The Reading Edge is available for public use at the Berkeley Public Library, 2121 Allston Way. This computer scans printed text and reads it back aloud with a synthesized voice. It's available for anyone with a disability that requires its use to access print material. Users must complete a brief training session before using the Reading Edge; after that, reservations are needed. Call the Reference Desk at 644-6648 to set up a training session.

"Daily Word" readers: Study Unity principles at Temescal Library, 5205 Telegraph, Wednesdays noon to 1 p.m. Contact Anne Allen, 843-5611.

Meetings

A public hearing on the designation of West Berkeley Shellmound as a City landmark on Monday, Dec. 6, 7:30 p.m. at the North Berkeley Senior Center, 1902 Hearst. Call Stephanie Manning at 841-8562 for additional information.

Author Diane Dorrans Saeks speaks about the interiors of many well-known Californians, from SF penthouses and Berkeley bungalows to coastal getaways on Wednesday, Dec. 8, 7 p.m. at the Builders Booksource, 1817 Fourth St. Call 845-6874 for additional information.

California Retired Teachers Association, West Contra Costa Division #8, meet on Dec. 7, noon, at St. Luke's Methodist Church, 3200 Barrett Ave., Richmond. Nancy Gill directs the Pinole Valley High School Show Choir, Men's Quartet, and Women's Chorus in a seasonal musical program. Tickets: \$9 for the buffet luncheon. Call 234-3046 by Dec. 3, to reserve

The City Commons Club meets in the Berkeley City Club, 2315 Durant Ave. every Friday. Social hour begins at 11:15 a.m. in the Venetian Room. Luncheon served at 11:45 to 12:15 p.m. \$10.75 or \$12.25. Speaker starts promptly at 12:30 p.m. Admission \$1 with coffee. Student admission free. Call 848-3533 for

speaker information or to make reservations if you are bringing more than one guest.

Speak Smart! Join Beijing Express Toastmasters, The Smart Club! Meetings take place each Monday, 6:15 to 7:30 p.m. at Peking Express Restaurant, 2068 Center St. For additional information call 549-9671.

Toastmasters Meeting: Stand up and say what you mean. Come practice with us. Every Tuesday, Noon to 1 p.m. at 700 Heinz Ave. Berkeley. Call 883-6708 for additional information.

Take Pounds Off Sensibly (TOPS) meets every Thursday evening at the First Baptist Church, Richmond, on Solano below Arlington. Call Betty Coates 235-0490 for more information.

Joy of Yiddish: Yiddish conversation at 1 p.m. at the North Berkeley Senior Center, 1901 Hearst. Call 844-6107 for additional information.

The Berkeley Communicators Toastmasters Club meet on the first and third Wednesday of the month from 7:15 to 8:30 a.m. at the Berkeley City Club, 2315 Durant. Details: 524-3765.

The Berkeley Arthritis Support and Education Group meets on the second Tuesday of each month (except December) 1 to 2:30 p.m. in the Maffei Auditorium, Herrick Campus, 2001 Dwight

Way Dr. Brian Kahn has treated many types of arthritis questions. For more information, call 204-4593.

Toastmasters on second and third Monday from 7:15 to 8:30 p.m. at the English Language Center, 2515 Hilegas. Call 869-2547 for details.

Public speaking physics conference. A physical Toastmasters group with life-threatening illnesses first and third Thursday 7:30 p.m., 2515 Hilegas. Call 869-2547 for details.

Spirituality and Healing Healing Story Crosses, an integrated healing group for people with life-threatening illnesses on Wednesday of each month North Berkeley. Call 528-1123 for information.

State Health Toastmasters every second, third and fourth day of the month from 12:15 to 1:30 p.m. at the State Health Center, Berkeley Way. Details: 549-1123.

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See CALENDAR, Page

See Puzzle on page C7





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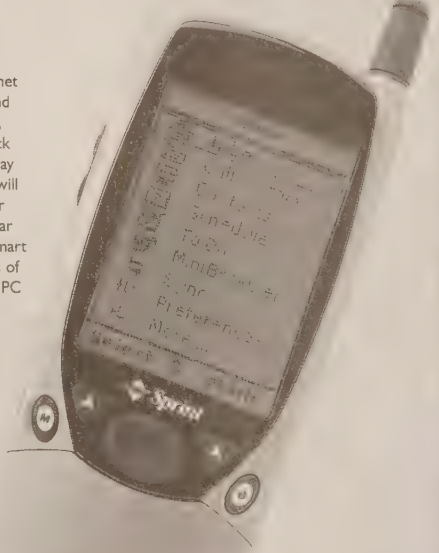
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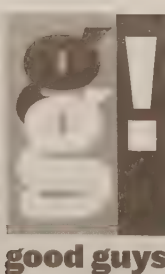
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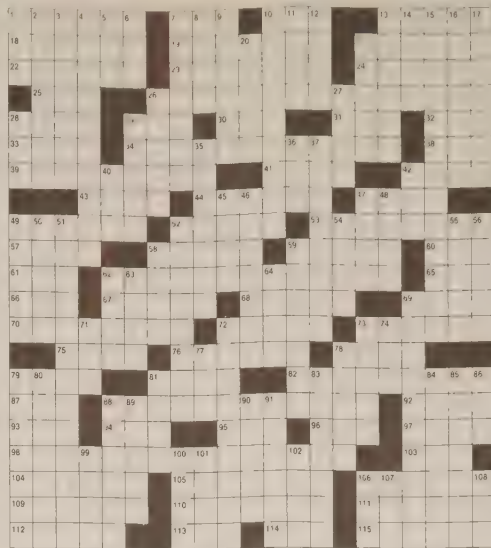
NEW YORK TIMES CROSSWORD PUZZLE

ODD COUPLES

By PATRICK D. BERRY / Edited by WILL SHORTZ

- ACROSS
- 1 Telephone user
10 Clever "Down
in front!"
11 Every body
12 Clean the last
bit
13 Not straight up
14 "I mean that is
not passion's
love," in
Shakespeare
15 Home of
Kansas
Wesleyan
University
16 Jane
17 Jezebel
18 Roswell
crisis?
19 "I'm from
Homer Simpson
20 A view of
measuring
weight?
21 When repeated,
an island NW
of Tahiti
22 Down
23 — while
24 Cracker Jack
surprise
25 The name in
real estate
26 Where diners
are dinars
27 Person library's
contents?
28 Baseball fig.
29 Stared off into
space
30 Sticky stuff
31 Place for a pad
- 43 Reeve role
44 Family's coat of
arms, say
47 In a group of
49 Not yet
actualized
52 Ordinary
worker
53 Mayan ruin site
57 Grayish
58 Columbus's
birthplace
59 Ship salvager's
aid
60 Actress
Thurman
61 Forbidding
62 Unhip cabbie
with passenger?
65 OS/2 company
66 Play
67 "There's — in
My Soup"
(Peter Sellers
comedy)
68 Frighten
69 "My —!"
70 Sit in the
bleachers
71 Overhauled
72 Himalayan
kingdom
73 Impressionist
74 More sullen
76 Reagan Cabinet
member
79 Original Stoic
81 Swiss snowfield
82 Garment
industry
innovator
87 Line in a voting
booth: Abbr.

- 5 Grp. with
standards
6 Business
solicitor
7 33-Across,
once
8 Top-notch
9 Fictional teen
sleuth Belden
10 Diagonally
11 English
professor's deg.
12 Leopold's
partner in crime
13 Southeast Asian
natives
14 Actress Lena
15 Gun with a
silencer?
16 Rattle
17 Bible reading
20 Name on a
fridge
21 Clip joint?
26 200-milligram
unit
27 Straddling
28 Auction action
29 Exhausted
35 Of the
breastbone
36 John —
37 Fenced-off area
40 Cartoon dog
42 Flesh and blood
45 Lycanthrope's
catalyst
46 Waterskin
47 Wing-shaped
48 Bébé watcher
49 Hideouts
50 Took places
51 Music org.
52 One way to
explain a
coincidence
53 Mostly empty
spice rack?



- 52 Pressed one's
nose to the
glass
54 Surg. study
55 Planetary
shadow
56 Irish P.M. —
de Valera
58 Doggedness
59 Took places
62 One way to
explain a
coincidence
63 Algae product
64 Pop singer from
Nigeria
69 Emotional
scene with actor
Grant?
71 TV's "—
Sharkey"
72 Evasive
answer
73 Greeted a
shepherd
74 Part of H.M.S.
77 Miner's quarry
78 Duncan —
79 Numbers on
letters
80 Went back on
stage
81 Laplander,
maybe
83 Watch words?
84 Be situated
above
85 Goes downhill
86 Objective
88 Potters' needs
89 Flip
comment?
90 Chevalier
91 Cheaper
99 Hall-of-Famer
Coveleski
100 Performer who
fills the club
101 Tarpeian Rock's
location
102 Pare, say
106 Preamble to the
Constitution?
107 Stanley Cup
org
108 Primed

See Answers on page C6

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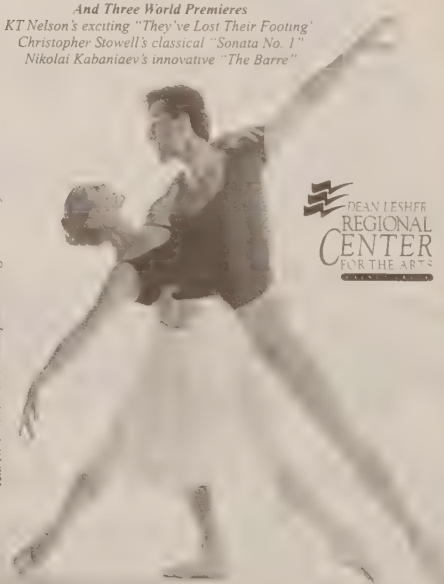
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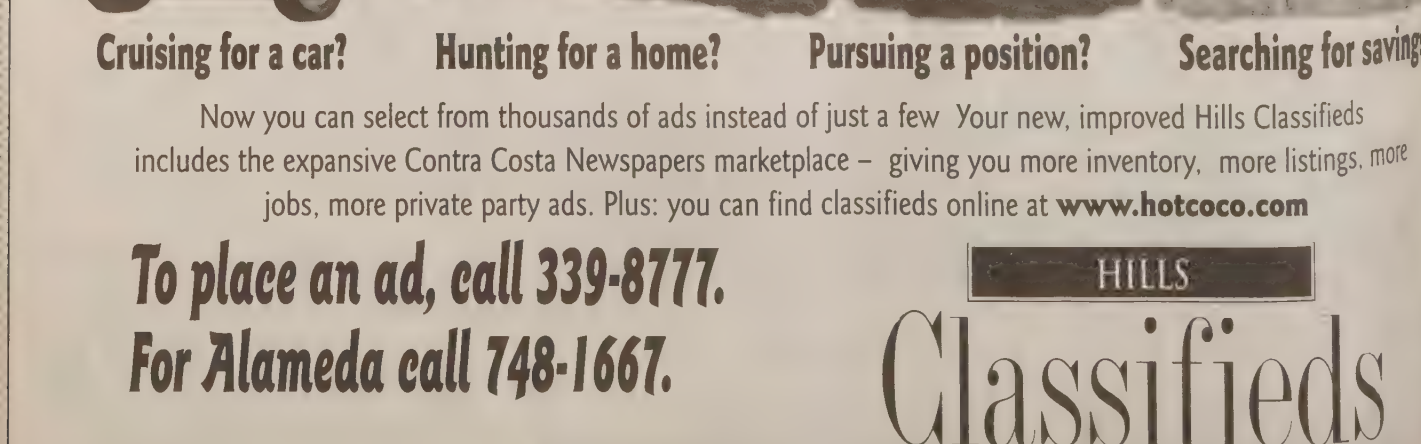
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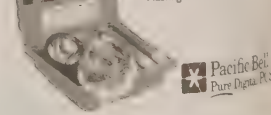
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The Auto Section

The Montclairian, The Piedmonter, The Berkeley Voice, The Journal, The Alameda Journal

November 26, 1999

Section D

Motor Biz Audi TT sales bolster interest in A4, A6 models [D2]

Auto Doc Pop the hood and say, 'Ahh.' Junior Damato has the cure [D2]

Classic Classics Where's that 1927 Rolls Royce Phantom been hiding? [D3]

Elantra great value, but note the flaws

Keane on Wheels

By Tom Keane

Is this the beginning of a warranty war? Twice now, a manufacturer has boasted of the "best" and "longest" warranty. Both vehicles are of foreign origin, this one from Korea.

The 2000 Hyundai Elantra has a 10-year, 100,000-mile powertrain warranty that covers most of the engine and transaxle components. What is more surprising, this vehicle is not a top-of-the-line luxury car.

The total price of this tester is well under \$15,000, making me wonder why high-priced car manufacturers don't stand behind their products with long-term commitment. Base price is \$12,549; the vehicle I drove, with a few options, cost \$14,139.

Does a warranty mean the engine is flaw-proof? Not at all. In fact, my tester's "check engine" light started glowing on the instrument panel a few days after I got it - and it didn't even have 1,000 miles on it. I never did determine the reason for the malfunction.

That's why I'm hesitant to mention the cantankerous transmission shifting, or the jerky ride until the engine heated, and the dubious overall performance. Besides, all this is covered by the 10-year warranty.

During the first few days of my test-drive, the engine purred like a kitten.

See ELANTRA, Page D2



THE ELANTRA won't accelerate onto a freeway with gusto. What it will do is net economical fuel economy.

Drive, She Said



By Denise McCluggage

"Crossover" is just another way of saying we don't know what to call it."

Designers aim for fun, function

Judging from an assortment of new concept cars I've seen, either in person or from the recent Tokyo Motor Show, the automotive world is finally catching on to what I knew some 15 years ago. Versatility is big.

I knew it, and so did all the other owners of a four-wheel drive Colt Vista, a Mitsubishi-made chameleon generally referred to as a "tall station wagon."

I once said it could fold itself into everything but a white crane, that's how versatile it was. And that's what's coming, folks. Updated versions of tallish and squarish, with the interior flexibility of a Chinese acrobat. Flexible, functional. Set

See FUNCTION, Page D2

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Timing belt not the only suspect when car runs rough

Dear Doctor: I own a 1987 Dodge Shadow with 115,000 miles. I purchased the car with 95,000 miles. The problem is the engine runs rough since I had the timing belt and water pump replaced. The engine ran perfectly before the job. What could be wrong? Ed

Dear Ed: If the timing belt were off a tooth either way, the engine would still idle smoothly. For the engine to be rough, a vacuum line, fouled spark plug, or stuck EGR valve could be the problem. If you feel uncomfortable with the shop that did the repair, try another shop for their opinion on the problem.

Belts go 60,000 miles or so

Dear Doctor: I am under the impression that timing belts should be replaced every 60,000 miles. What about timing chains? I was told that in some cases, if either breaks, the engine could suffer major damage. How can I tell which is the problem? Is there a mileage limit on timing chains? Robert

Dear Robert: Each manufacturer has its own mileage interval replacement for the timing belt. On average, 60,000 miles is a good time for replacement.

Timing chains, depending on engine and driving habits, will last from a low of 75,000 miles up through 200,000 miles. The more stop-and-go, the sooner they will stretch and

Ask the Auto Doctor

By Junior Damato

"If the timing belt were off a tooth either way, the engine would still idle smoothly."

break without warning. Manufacturers will list if the engine is free wheeling or not.

Check battery right way

Dear Doctor: I own 1992 Pontiac Grand Am with 100,000 miles. On hot days the engine will not restart after being driven 30 miles or more when I shut it off to run into the store. The engine has to cool down for a few hours. I have to get a jump start if I want an instant restart. The battery, alternator and starter all check out good. What else is there? Sam

Dear Sam: The heaviest load is put on both the starter and alternator when hot. The correct way to check a fully charged battery is load test half the cold cranking amps for 20 seconds. If the battery drops be-

low 9.6 volts during the load test, replace it. The most common mistake people make is buying a low cold crank amp inexpensive battery. This is one time when bigger is always better.

The next step is the starter motor may be very hot from the engine temperature. There are universal insulation blankets for starter motors. A check of positive and ground connections is important. Make sure the alternator output is at specs. On some rare cases, the engine may have internal problems that show up under extreme hot conditions.

An alternate plan

Dear Doctor: I have long been an owner of Buick cars. Currently I own 1998 Buick Park Avenue Ultra with 64,000 miles on it. In July of '98, at 55,000 miles I had to have the original alternator replaced, along with a new battery. Since then I have been back like clockwork every 90 days for another alternator replacement at no charge. The most recent alternator was purchased from a different supplier in hopes of a longer than 90-day life. Could the shop be missing something in the installation of the alternator? Jerry

Dear Jerry: There are many so-called alternator rebuild companies out there that do a poor job on the rebuilding. There are even fewer shops that do a good job. Next is the

ground connection, some alternator replacements suggest an additional ground wire.

A poor ground connection will cause the alternator to overheat and go to alternator heaven. You also mentioned a new battery replacement; have the shop check the new battery under a load test as well. I always use a name brand remanufactured alternator, if available, even a factory Delco unit.

Put that noise to the test

Dear Doctor: I recently purchased a 1996 Toyota Corolla with 30,000 miles. I noticed the car seems a bit noisy. It kind of sounds like I am driving through a tunnel. Is this a normal condition? Ellen

Dear Ellen: The Corolla is a fairly quiet car. There will be some wind noise while driving on the highway.

Take the car to the shop for a road test for their opinion.

There is a possibility the noise may be coming from the tires due to scalloping or thread design.

I like a smooth nonaggressive thread design for summer driving, or aggressive tires for winter driving.

Some brakes in recall

Dear Doctor: I own a 1988 Chevrolet pickup with rear wheel anti-lock brakes that wear out front brake pads, and not the rear brake shoes. At 100,000 miles, a trouble

code led the technician to the ABS computer. I asked why the rear brakes outlasted the front pads. The rear brakes are original. After spending \$600, they said there is nothing they can do about the long-lasting rear brakes. I never feel pulsing in the brake pedal when backing the car out of the garage, like I did a year ago. This truck has always had poor braking. What do you think? Richard

Dear Richard: You are not the first to complain about poor brakes on GM trucks, especially models with ABS systems. There are certain models under a recall.

I suggest you call the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration at 800/424-9393 and give them your Vehicle Identification Number.

I find too little hydraulic pressure going to the rear brakes when the brake is applied. This is caused by either the design of the ABS unit and/or the proportion valve. There are aftermarket adjustable proportion valves available at many speed shops. I have installed many over the years with success.

Don't skimp on safety

Dear Doctor: I own a 1998 Mercury Sable with 65,000 miles. My service adviser suggested that I have the engine mounts replaced at a cost of \$450. He said mount replacements are a common problem. Are you aware of this? Why should this hap-

pen? Is the price in-

Dear Bill: The engine mounts on your filled and do have a mate comes in, but I do not know what you wants to replace it. I suggest a second opinion. A weak or broken is a safety hazard.

Oh, that's rich!

Dear Doctor: I own a 1998 Ranger XLT. I was told the 15 minute drive. If I try to engine within 10 minutes, I hold the gas pedal down. Why? Russ

Dear Russ: It sounds like fuel condition. This will be a problem to solve. The steps to check both fuel pressure and engine spark. A common problem is a leaking fuel pressure regulator. A simple fuel pressure test will remove the small pressure regulator. If there is no gasoline, the pressure regulator is leaking. When you step on the pedal to the floor, the fuel injectors down the fuel injectors, known as a clear flood mode.

Send questions to: Auto Doctor, Court Circle, Lakeville, MN

Consumer interest in Audi TT roadster driving A4, A6 success

Ten trains run daily between Gyor, Hungary and Ingolstadt, Germany. The trains carry eight unfinished bodies cradled in special jigs in each car, along with parts from outside suppliers to Hungary. The next day, the TTs are assembled in Gyor and the finished sports cars are transported back to Germany for sale or export.

The TT has become one of the most sought after cars in the world. German buyers must wait two years for delivery and U.S. purchasers must wait about half that time. That's a real exception in the U.S. market where 1999 sales are shaping to be the best year ever for carmakers. Many sales today, however, are fu-

Down the Road

By Herb Shuldiner

eled by incentives and other discounting schemes.

Audi is one of the few brands that can boast of cars that customers value for their technology and performance rather than for their discounts. This is boosting Audi sales to near record levels in the U.S.

Every TT is virtually pre-sold when it's delivered to a dealership. Audi hopes to double TT sales in 2000. This year's sales will be limited to about 5,000 units. But its im-

pact is far greater than the number of TTs that are actually sold. The TT has generated more showroom traffic for Audi dealers so they are selling more A4 and A6 models.

A roadster version of the TT is due to arrive in Audi showrooms this fall and should help boost sales of the brand even more.

If Audi doesn't quite surpass its high water level of 74,000 sales in 1985 this year, it is certain to drive through that mark in 2000. Certainly it has been an amazing comeback for Audi, once on the verge of extinction in the U.S.

A television newsmagazine report that Audis were producing unintended acceleration that caused ac-

cidents in which drivers were injured or killed sent sales of that brand into a tailspin. Sales got so low that Volkswagen, Audi's parent company, seriously considered yanking the brand from the U.S. market. Audi had virtually dropped off the radar screen in the U.S. in 1994.

Then a new marketing team, headed by Gerd Klaus, took over the job of selling Audi cars. The team came up with the brilliant idea of unbundling the quattro all-wheel drive option from a \$10,000 package. Audi dropped the quattro price to a mere \$1,500 and the brand's sales started to skyrocket.

Since then sales have climbed by more than 20 percent annually to

make Audi once again an important competitor in the European luxury car segment. Klaus's work with Audi was so successful that he was promoted to head all Volkswagen operations in the U.S.

Audi doesn't have ambitions to compete in volume with BMW, Mercedes or Lexus. Walter Hanek, Audi's marketing director, says the sales of a luxury car company should be limited to 100,000 units annually to retain exclusivity. Audi's three principal competitors have already roared through that level, thanks largely (except BMW) to the sale of sport utility vehicles they recently introduced.

Audi, however, is sticking to a lineup of cars that are, arguably, the

most elegantly designed from auto company can boast. Sales Audis, save for the flagging A8, are bounding ahead at a record pace. Sales are Audi's one great claim to fame.

Audi says it's larger than dealers don't know how to sell.

Hanek says that Audi doesn't sell the A8 as a true luxury car. Thus, they offer big discounts. A8 that tend to turn off buyers who are looking for much as technology and performance. One solution may be the number of Audi dealers allowed to sell the A8. Hanek

Elantra

FROM PAGE D1

However, it only purred, it didn't roar. Under the hood is a 2.0-liter, four-cylinder engine that produces a modest 140 horsepower. In other words, this car won't accelerate onto a freeway with gusto. What it will do is produce economical fuel economy: 22 city, 31 highway, which is the EPA mileage rating equipped with a four-speed automatic transmission with overdrive.

It's easy to make snide remarks about what the Elantra doesn't have, but for a five-passenger, four-door sedan that is well below the average price of today's automobile, this import offers darn nice transportation. I was particularly impressed with the overall visibility from the driver's seat, and for that reason, I felt very comfortable behind the wheel.

There are a few differences between

last year's car (which is when Hyundai gave the Elantra a complete overhaul) and this year's 2000 model. There is an attractive chrome strip down the side of the body; the side view mirrors match the body color; a tachometer is standard equipment along with power windows; and it has better seats.

The rest of the car is just about the same, which means that it has a proven track record.

One track record of the Elantra is that it is Hyundai's best selling vehicle. There are also an Elantra wagon, an Accent, a Sonata, and a Tiburon—all boasting low prices.

A low price doesn't mean that the Elantra is a piece of junk. This is a well-assembled car with the passenger cabin protected by steel reinforcements, side impact beams and dual airbags. Even the three-point seat belts have the sophisticated pretensioners. The well-reinforced body allowed the engineers to assemble a better suspension for a comfortable riding car.

SPECIFICATIONS

2000 HYUNDAI ELANTRA

Vehicle type.....	5-passenger 4-door FWD sedan
Base price.....	\$12,549 (as tested: \$14,139)
Engine type.....	4-cylinder 16-valve DOHC w/MPFI
Displacement.....	2.0-liter
Horsepower (net).....	140 at 6000 rpm
Torque (lb-ft).....	133 at 480 rpm
Transmission.....	4-speed automatic with OD
Wheelbase.....	100 in. 2540 mm
Tread (front/rear).....	58 / 57 in. 1473 / 1447 mm
Overall length.....	174 in. 4419 mm
Overall width.....	67 in. 1701 mm
Height.....	55 in. 1397 mm
Turning circle.....	2 ft. 9.75 m
Curb weight.....	2683 lbs. 1196 kg
Fuel capacity.....	14 gals. 54L
EPA mileage rating.....	22 city, 31 highway
Assembly plant.....	Ulsan, Korea
Strong feature.....	Interior visibility
Weak feature.....	Transmission

Crossover

FROM PAGE D1

your ear to hear those two words for the future. Another word muttered in concept circles is "crossover," but that just a way of saying we don't know what to call it.

Saturn CV1

Take Saturn's CV1. It is flexible function in action. Other "in" words: slide and fold. The seats do both. The doors don't slide, otherwise you might mistake it for a minivan. The doors bi-fold! Hey, it's unique and functional with all-wheel drive, a variety of tucking places, run-flat tires, and easy accommodation for child seats, and folded wheel chairs. Can you say "flexible"?

Chevy Traverse

Chevrolet is calling its appealing Traverse (tall and a slightly rounded sort of square) "the benchmark for sedan functionality." If the word "sedan" conjures the usual three-box silhouette—a low box in front for the engine, a higher one for the passengers and a low box in back for the trunk—you will be befuddled. Try to imagine your great-grandmother rising up to visit your house expecting a parlor and maybe a drawing room and finding a family room, a breakfast nook and a mud room. Needs change and so do names.

Chevy SSR

The what-to-call-it conundrum is furthered by the Chevy SSR. Yes, it's a truck with a V8 engine, but it is also a roadster with a power-retractable hardtop. If that isn't Garth Brooks' country and rocking personae all in one, what is? Actually, the SSR pulls it off better.

"The design draws you in and the performance keeps you there," says Ed Welburn, director of GM's Corporate Brand Character Center. The SSR sparks another oft-heard word, "retro." Shades of El Camino perhaps? Anyway, that's a word at the Tokyo show as well. Squarish, tall, flexible, functional and crossover. Fold, remove, slide. Everybody's doing it.

Toyota Opa, Honda Neukon

The Toyota Opa and Honda Neukon concept vehicles are both near boxes with fold-to-please interiors. A Daihatsu model called "Naked", can be turned every way but inside out with a picnic table hanging off the rear. Which reminds me, my Colt Vista had what I called a "gazebo mode." Park at some scenic spot, fold the center row of seats flat, lol! in the rear row after opening both doors wide to let the breezes ruffle in and mingle with the music. Most of these new concepts allow something like that. How fond I am of function and flexibility!

Just how many of these updated, go-one-or-two-further Colt Vista-esque vehicles will actually reach production is uncertain, but in recent years many concept or show cars have been early steps on the pathway to the market. If many of them do make it, and you are keen for flexibility and pleasurable driving to boot, then you will be delighted with the choices offered.

If you prefer familiarity over flexibility, they will still be making three-box sedans and mountains of mountainous sport utility vehicles, and the "cute-utes" as well.

Be leery, once designers have tasted the freedom and fun of functionality, it can color everything they do.

The Auto Section





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
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
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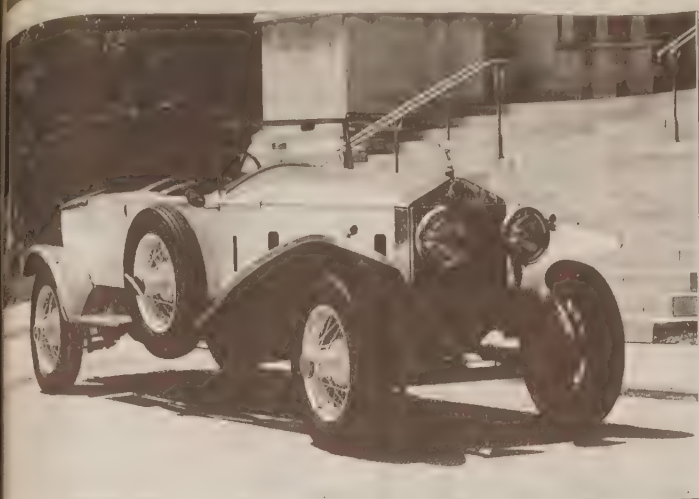
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1927 ROLLS ROYCE Phantom I.

'Lost' 1927 Rolls Phantom I makes stately entrance

Classic Classics

By Vern Parker

The speedometer only records speeds up to 90 mph, but Rosner says his car can't go past 68 mph. "At that speed, aerodynamics comes into play," Rosner says.

gine with a seven-gallon cooling system rarely overheats. The 16 vertical vanes forming the grille are manually operated, instead of the more common thermostatically-operated vanes.

Of course, such an arrangement requires the driver to keep an eye on the temperature gauge. The 14-inch diameter headlights in front of the famous radiator shell are not overly efficient.

"They cast a light beam 20-feet

out and 90-feet wide," Rosner says.

The overhead valve, six-cylinder engine runs happily with six quarts of oil in the aluminum alloy crankcase. Even though the electrical system is 12 volt, the starter is chain-driven. Therefore, when the floor starter is stepped on, the engine only reluctantly begins to turn.

The 16-foot, 10-inch-long car rides on a 150-inch wheelbase supported by 7.00x21-inch Dunlop tires on 84-spoke wire wheels painted the body color.

The wooden dashboard of the

right-hand-drive Rolls-Royce features, from the left, instruments to record water temperature, speed, amperes and oil pressure. A tiny rearview mirror sits atop a slender pedestal on the dashboard above the instruments. The gasoline gauge is mounted on the 18-gallon tank at the rear of the car. The speedometer only records speeds up to 90 mph, but Rosner says his car can't go past 68 mph. "At that speed, aerodynamics comes into play."

The Rolls-Royce has only three doors. Where the driver's door might be expected is where the spare tire is mounted. Since the driver has no door, the floor mounted hand brake and four-speed gear shift lever are placed at the driver's right knee. All of the three doors, with no outside handles, have pockets in the leather upholstery. Both the front and rear seats are just slightly more than three feet wide.

Rosner discovered that long after Sir Henry Royce had once driven the car, one of the more recent owners of the car had lost the car through repossession. Before it was taken from him, he removed anything that wasn't nailed down: the spirit of ecstasy mascot, the spare tire, tools, wheel wrench and, unbelievably, the fabric top, leaving just the bows.

Rosner was able to replace all of the missing parts except the top. Since this is the only car in the world the top would fit, he sought to have it returned. Being quoted a price for more than what a replacement would cost, the deal was rejected. He hardly ever has the replacement top up.

Whenever Rosner climbs through the left door to board his 72-year-old Rolls-Royce Phantom I and settles in behind the four-spoke steering wheel, he simply disregards the fact his car delivers eight mpg. He basks in the reflected glory of a beautiful car so well made. "It's just great," he says.

SPARE PARTS

MB roadster concept

Mercedes-Benz has unveiled a new roadster concept based on its SLR high-performance sports car. Called the Vision SLR Roadster, the open-top two-seater blends futuristic styling from the current Mercedes Formula 1 World Champion race car. It has classic design elements from the famous Mercedes SL sports car and SLR racer of the 1950s. The convertible top on the SLR is the first to be made of a new transparent material, which lets in light and retains much of the pleasure of open-top driving, even when the top is up.

Brake for wildlife

The Humane Society of the United States urges motorists to be wary about deer and other animals. Collisions with wildlife usually increase this time of the year because it is hunting season for deer, moose and other large mammals. Hunting seasons and the change to Standard Time disrupt normal patterns for both wildlife and drivers. Expect to see most animals at dawn and dusk when many animals are most active. If you see one animal, expect more to follow.

Honda record sales

For the first time in American Honda history, the automaker topped the one million mark in model year sales, totaling 1,067,468 cars and trucks for 1999. Odyssey minivan sales of 56,027 reflect a 92.5 percent increase over the previous year.

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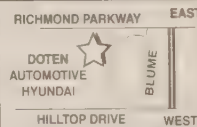
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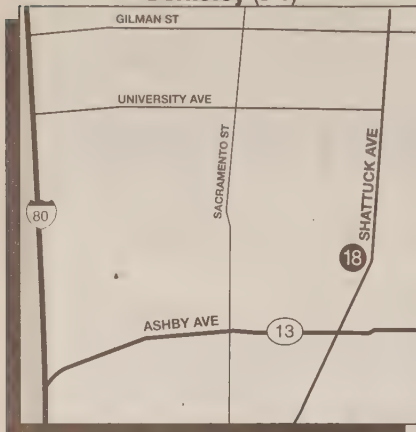
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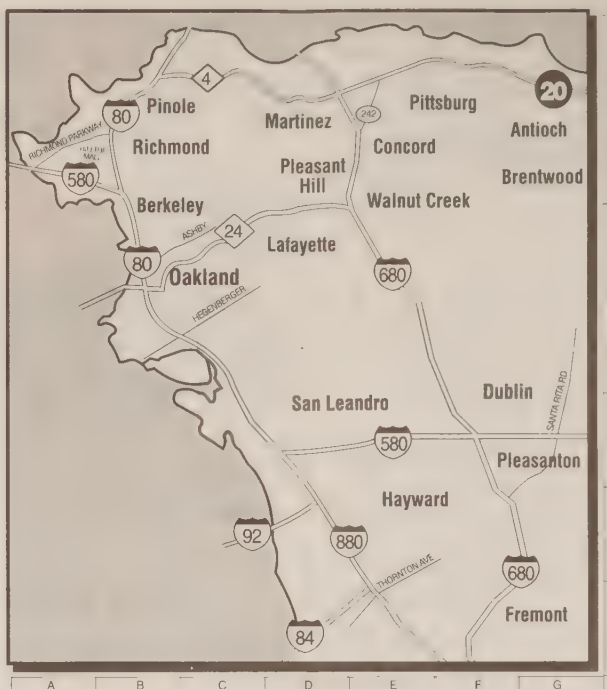
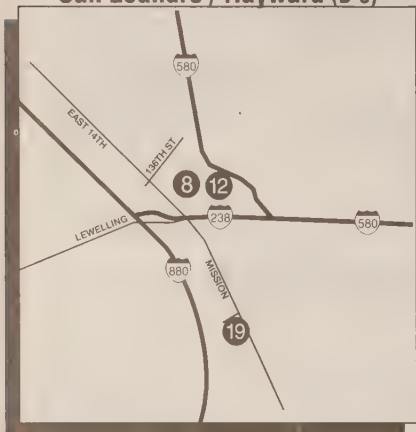
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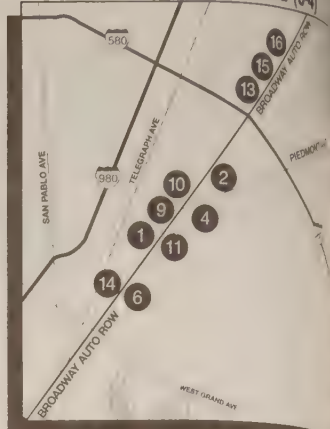
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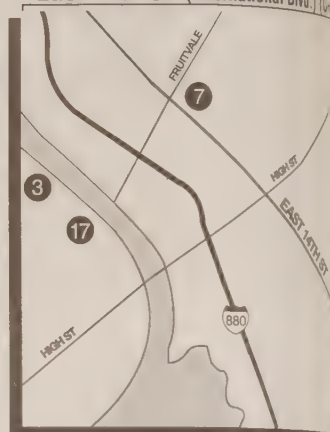
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SALES: Flooring, tile, or roofing exp. req. Mainly pub sales pos. based in W.C. showroom of American State Co. Fax resume to 925-977-4895 or call Mike 925-947-4150

250 Help Wanted

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We need 15 aggressive, incentive driven sales representatives. NO EXPERIENCE NECESSARY

The lawn care industry is experiencing explosive growth, and as the industry leader we are in prime position to capitalize on the service business for the year 2000. We offer:

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• EXCELLENT BENEFIT PKG
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If you want to be part of our winning team call Chiu at 925-825-2271 or fax your resume to 925-665-9676. After hours call our automated phone application system at 1-888-634-8863. EOE AA/M/F/D/V

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Everyone grows in our environment

SALES/INSIDE: F/T w/bnfs, salary. Will train. Apply Western Title, 1290 Diamond Way, Concord, 95710-1495 or fax resumes 925-671-7313

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250 Help Wanted

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Now hiring acct. managers to join growing mfg. firm. Sal/Comm/Bonus. bnf. Some travel. Fax resume to 925-828-0866

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Maly's a local professional sales distributor of product lines such as ANZA, Schwarzkopf, etc. Altern. along with other others is seeking self-motivated outside sales people for the East Bay area. Excellent first year earning potential. Tremendous long term employment opportunity. Draw & commission. Fax resume and cover letter to Mr. Wiley at (831) 722-6255

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Sales-Inside
(((9)))
EXSTREAM DATA
High volume e-document management and delivery

Pre-IPO Fax & E-mail Broadcast Company
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Capable Sales rep to manage existing and new accounts for rapidly growing e-document delivery company. Talk with business clients worldwide. Ideal applicant has 2+ years of solid sales experience. Compensation includes salary plus commission. Great opp'ty to learn how corps use high volume comm technology.
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SALES
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EXCELLENT ADVANCEMENT OPPORTUNITIES
Our Business Sales Representatives in our Concord Sales Office create and sell effective Yellow Pages advertising programs. We offer:

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Qualified applicants should have one year of demonstrated successful experience in telemarketing or other commissioned experience selling to business customers; strong organizational and communication skills and the ability to handle a heavy schedule, with a focus on detail and meeting advertising deadlines. Computer experience is desirable.

Average annual earnings: \$42,000 (Base + Commissions), with potential for significantly more, depending on your initiative and skill.

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97 HONDA Accord LX Wgn RARE+LOWMILES#13751 MUST SELL	96 INFINITI I30 Fully Loaded Like New Low Miles #301459 REDUCED!	96 TRANS AM Pontiac #205251 Low Mi+Stick \$17,999 OBO	97 MITSUBISHI ECLIPSE Moonroof+AC+Lthr+Cust. Starter+8K on Bk#197233 \$13,999	96 MAXIMA Blk on Blk+Loaded+Ls New #747093 \$16,999	95 SS IMPALA LEADER+8K on Bk \$11,999 MUST SELL

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YOUR BAY AREA CLEARANCE CENTER
BROADWAY AUTO ROW IN OAKLAND

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All cars subject to prior sale on credit approval plus tax, lic and doc fees. Ad expires 11/29/99
* MUST Present current ad on in stock model similarly equipped

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Now you can select from a pool of 1,000 new and resale homes instead of just 100! Your new Hills Classifieds include the expansive Contra Costa Newspapers marketplace - giving you more listings, more choice, more results! Plus - you can find classifieds online at **www.hotcoco.com**

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0.9% APR OR \$0 DOWN

The Ford Superstore That Gives You More

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V6, Auto, PW, PDL, Tilt, Cruise & More.



MSRP.....\$19,560
S&C Discount.....\$3422
Factory Rebate.....\$1750
College Grad.....\$400 Plus Get Financing As Low As 0.9% for 36 months or 2.9% for 60 months

YOUR PRICE \$13,988

ID #328303, 331528, 312082, 316413 @ this price

2000 Mustang

Tilt, Cruise, Pwr. Wind & Locks, AC, CD Player, Rear Spoiler



MSRP.....\$17,790
S&C Discount.....\$1802
College Grad.....\$400

YOUR PRICE \$15,588

ID #108462 at this price.

All 2000 Ranger Super Cabs



After \$1,000 Rebate

\$2,500 Off MSRP

All Remaining 1999 Explorer In Stock



After \$1,000 Rebate

\$6,800 Off MSRP

2000 Ranger Pick Up

Pwr. Steering, Tinted Glass, Bumper, AM/FM Stereo



MSRP.....\$12,020
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Factory Rebate.....\$1000
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YOUR PRICE \$9,588

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HOME OF THE MIRACLE DEAL!

Drive & Save!

Raining! No Problem Indoor Facilities Over 300 vehicles

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We Speak Your Language!

All vehicles subject to prior sale plus tax, license and documentation fees. Offer expires 11/29/99. * On credit approval.

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3.8L, Leather,
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This is the sale you've been waiting for!

With every available Jeep you could
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No Down Payment, and great
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95 SS Impala

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MUST SELL

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LX Wgn.

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REDUCED

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1 owner, clean like new, #422539

\$13,995

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MUST SELL

99 Cadillac Deville

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MUST SELL

98 Infiniti I30

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96 Maxima

4000 miles, #15731

\$16,999

97 Eclipse

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COCHRAN & CELLI

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Low prices after rebate plus tax & lic, doc. fees. Subject to prior sale. *Price excludes license. Sale ends 11-29-99.

See dealer for details for college Grad rebate.



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96 Toyota Camry LE.....\$15,899
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TPR, Inc., a growing multi-state const. svc. co. has an immediate opening for a dynamic Sales Rep. in Pittsburg, CA. Resp. incl. representing TPR services to contractors, negotiating contracts, and cust. service. BA, 3 years exp. in an outside sales, const. or equip. rental bkgnd. pref. Sal. DOE. full benefits. 401(h). Vehicle. BA pref. Fax resume w/sal. history to: H.R. Fax (925) 833-0220. E-mail: jw@tpr.com

SALES

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Great career opportunity for expert route driver. Established company. Clean DMV. Fax resume to Marlin (910) 430-6002 San Leandro, EOE

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\$31,278 Monthly. 2000 hrs. \$7819 comm. per week. Clean MVR's. 2-3 Leads daily. Electric Mfg. Estab. 1900-760-7066

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Computer Associates International, Inc. (MSE/CA)

The world leader in mission-critical business computing, has more than 17,500 employees and had revenue of \$5.3 billion in fiscal year 1999. We provide software, support, and integration services in more than 100 countries around the world. We have immediate opportunities throughout California.

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The successful candidates will possess a minimum of 3 years proven software sales success. Responsibilities will include promoting our systems or database software solution to the highly motivated, entrepreneurial candidates who demonstrate proven sales success. Some travel required.

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The ideal candidate is a "take charge" person capable of handling all areas of account management including lead creation and direction, along with complete client administration, with a desire to expand their sales skills in the Information Technology industry. The CRM will support the efforts of the Sales Team to generate revenue. Applicants must be extremely detail oriented, highly responsive, very energetic, and ready to do what it takes to get the job done!

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We are looking for experienced National Account Managers with a minimum of 5+ years software and/or hardware sales experience to manage and sell to CA's major Fortune 500 technology accounts. Will be responsible for building relations at the executive and senior management level. Individuals must have excellent communication, organizational and presentation skills

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SALES

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SALES

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Office is looking for a PFT/PT openings in our loss prevention dept. in Contra Costa County area, union, clean clothes, excel. comm. skills, training, fax resume 408-778-2034 or fax resume 408-778-2040

SECURITY

Great Opportunity

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SECURITY OFFICERS

Immed. FT & PT posts. 15-55 \$9.50/hr. Livermore to Fremont area. For info, call 510/745-8515. EOE/M/F/V/D

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School Secretary/Adult Education, evenings, 5:00-9:00 p.m., Monday thru Thursday, 11 month year, \$11,520/yr. 2.5 day beginning salary. Deadline 12/26/99 send letter if interest and resume to: Chris Nelson, Martinez Adult School, 600 F. Street, Martinez, CA 94553 or Fax (925) 228-6999

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in stock, low \$2300
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930 F250 Aerator, 460 A/T, 8 cyl., 925 363-9923

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'85 Ranger, Utl, bed, needs trans. Best offer. 337-3580

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'86 Ford 90 W/4 ACES, VS. AT, 4 W/4 ACES, 37,000 miles, 7 pass. seat, owner. 337-8511

Ford 90 Cld. Van, 1981, 100,000 mi. 96,000cc. 925-525-2281

Ford 90 4x4 ACES, cond. 925-525-2281

Ford 90 W/4 ACES, 37,000 miles, 7 pass. seat, owner. 337-8511

work, \$500.
374-9141

'77 F250, custom
w/460 eng, 9900-lb
payload (925) 672-3382

'94 Sierra 2500 2WD,
fwy, mi., gd. cond.
Wabo (925) 820-0280

'94 1500 SLE, ext. cab,
d, shell, tow, CD, excel.
K. (925) 779-1652

'94 1500 Sierra V6 long
A/T, A/C, runs excel.
\$6950 (510) 506-2635

'91 Sierra SL, A/T, A/C
tires, w/ishell, runs grt.
D. (213) 328-9674

'89 '7.5T LB, V6, A/T, A/C,
1500, 2000, 2500, 3000,
3500, 4000, 4500, 5000,
5500, 6000, 6500, 7000,
7500, 8000, 8500, 9000,
9500, 10000, 10500, 11000,
11500, 12000, 12500, 13000,
13500, 14000, 14500, 15000,
15500, 16000, 16500, 17000,
17500, 18000, 18500, 19000,
19500, 20000, 20500, 21000,
21500, 22000, 22500, 23000,
23500, 24000, 24500, 25000,
25500, 26000, 26500, 27000,
27500, 28000, 28500, 29000,
29500, 30000, 30500, 31000,
31500, 32000, 32500, 33000,
33500, 34000, 34500, 35000,
35500, 36000, 36500, 37000,
37500, 38000, 38500, 39000,
39500, 40000, 40500, 41000,
41500, 42000, 42500, 43000,
43500, 44000, 44500, 45000,
45500, 46000, 46500, 47000,
47500, 48000, 48500, 49000,
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53500, 54000, 54500, 55000,
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57500, 58000, 58500, 59000,
59500, 60000, 60500, 61000,
61500, 62000, 62500, 63000,
63500, 64000, 64500, 65000,
65500, 66000, 66500, 67000,
67500, 68000, 68500, 69000,
69500, 70000, 70500, 71000,
71500, 72000, 72500, 73000,
73500, 74000, 74500, 75000,
75500, 76000, 76500, 77000,
77500, 78000, 78500, 79000,
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83500, 84000, 84500, 85000,
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87500, 88000, 88500, 89000,
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93500, 94000, 94500, 95000,
95500, 96000, 96500, 97000,
97500, 98000, 98500, 99000,
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235500, 236000, 236500, 237000,
237500, 238000, 238500, 239000,
239500, 240000, 240500, 241000,
241500, 242000, 242500, 243000,
243500, 244000, 244500, 245000,
2455

'82 675-679-0365
925/214 Pk V6, AT,
O BOC (925) 671-9132

'86 Shortbed, g'd
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454, Turbo 400, AC, 5
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bit, eng./trans. \$3200.
898-9793

MADZA SC 1.8i, 2000
cond. \$810.00

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pass. AC, 2000
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\$925.00

PLYMOUTH 1987
2nd. 58K, new

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\$5100.00. (925) 736-1171

Shredded.

PLYMOUTH '91
age 3, 12, 60 hp
eng. 2.0, 100 mi.
60. \$995.00-1044

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age 3, 12, 60 hp
eng. 2.0, 100 mi.
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age 3, 12, 60 hp
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eng. 2.0, 100 mi.
60. \$995.00-1044

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Loaded, 100 mi.
\$995.00-1044

SAN '98 Frontier XE King
A/C, bedliner,
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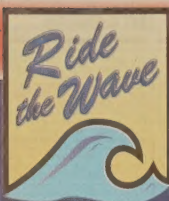
SAN '98 Frontier 13K S.
A/C, cassette, white
\$8900 (925) 609-9054

Nissan '96 Pathfinder LE
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'98B LOADED! Leather
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C FORD 1-P. 350-6009

FORD P-180 67K, 5 spd

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CD w/4
Speakers

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TACOMA Xcab

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• Rear Sliding Window



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\$14,388

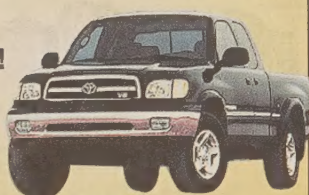
Example: #587918
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Financing
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• Dual Air Bags
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Model 7103

2000

CAMRY



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• Rear Window Defogger
• Dual Air Bags
• Digital Clock
• Daytime Running Lights

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V6 • Auto • Heated Mirrors • Moon
• Leather • Alloy Wheels • 7
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• 4 Wheel Disc Brakes • 4
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Air Cond., Pwr-Steering, AM/FM Stereo Cass.
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\$4,995



94 Nissan Sentra GXE

AC, AM/FM Cass, Pwr Steering #818554

\$7,995

97 Mercury Tracer

Auto, Air Cond., AM/FM Stereo, Dual Air Bags
#618774/1541P

\$8,595

96 Ford Contour

AC, Auto, PW, PDL, Cruise #240163

\$8,995

96 Nissan Sentra GXE

Air Cond., PW, PKL & More! #756545

\$9,995

94 Acura Integra LS Sport Cpe.

AC, PW, PDL, Tilt Wheel, Cruise, Cass, Moonroof #007760/1259R

\$9,995

97 Toyota Tercel

AC, PS, AM/FM Cass., dual air bags.
#239337/10883A

\$10,995

98 Pontiac Sunfire

Auto, AC, Tilt, Cass, ABS, Dual Air Bags
#821698/11508P

\$11,695

99 Honda Civic EX

AC, PW, PDL, Tilt, Cruise, CD, Moon Roof
#065400/10311A

\$16,595



90 Mercedes Benz 190E

6 Cyl., Auto, AC, PW, PDL, Cruise, Cass,
Leather, Sunroof & More #710518

\$11,995

95 Ford Aerostar

V-6, Auto, 7 Pass., Front & Rear AC, PW, PDL, Tilt,
Cruise, Cass, Roof Rack #A46185, 1449P

\$11,995

97 Nissan Sentra GLE

AC, PW, PDL, Tilt, Cruise, Cass., Moon Roof
#792368/14687

\$12,395

97 Toyota Corolla DX

Auto, AC, PW, PDL, Tilt, AM/FM Cass.,
#648367/9580A

\$12,495

98 Ford Contour

Auto, AC, PW, PDL, Tilt, Cruise, AM/FM Stereo,
Cass, Alloy Wheels #165638/1544P

\$12,595

98 Toyota Corolla LE

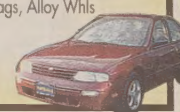
Auto, AC, PS, PW, PDL, Tilt, Cruise, Cass. Alloys
#030014/10744A

\$12,595

95 Nissan Altima GXE

Air, PS, PW, PDL, Tilt, CC, AM/FM Stereo
Cassette Disc, Dual Air Bags, Alloy Whls
#150625/1548P

\$8,995



98 Nissan Frontier XE

King Cab, AC, Cass., Alloy Wheels
#305576/10639A

\$12,695

97 Chev. Lumina

V-6, Auto, AC, PW, PDL, Tilt, Cruise, Cass, Pwr
Seat, Alloy Wheels #123163/1536P

\$12,995

99 Toyota Corolla CE Sdn 4D

A/C, PS, PW, PDL, Tilt Wheel, AM/FM Stereo,
Cass., Dual Air Bags #182073/11476P

\$13,895

97 Honda Civic EX

AC, PW, PDL, Tilt Wheel, Cruise, Moonroof
& More #037956

\$13,999

96 Nissan 240SX CPE

Auto, AC, PW, PDL, Tilt, Cruise, CD, Moon Roof,
Alloy Wheels & More #053523/14697

\$14,995

94 Dodge Stealth

Auto, AC, PS, PW, PDL, Tilt, CC, AM/FM Cass.
CD, Dual Air Bags, Leather, Dual Seats, Alloy Wheels,
Spoiler #009800/14679

\$14,595

98 Ford Windstar

GL, V6, Auto, AC, 7 Pass., PW, PDL,
Tilt, CC, ABS, Roof Rack, Alloy Wheels
#A50944/1468P

\$15,995



96 Acura Integra SE Cpe

Auto, AC, PW, PDL, Tilt, Cruise, AM/FM Cass,
Leather, Moon Roof & More #007236/1157P

\$14,995

95 Nissan Quest

V6, Auto, 7 Pass., Front & Rear A/C, PW, PDL, Tilt,
Cruise, CD, Moon Roof & Much More #823180/11088A

\$14,995

97 Honda Accord LX

Auto, AC, PW, PDL, Tilt, Cruise, CD, Changer,
Moon Roof & More #001611/1500P

\$15,795

96 Honda Prelude

Auto, AC, PW, PDL, Tilt, CC, Cass., CD Changer,
Sunroof. #000578/1495

\$15,795

99 Honda Civic EX

AC, PW, PDL, Tilt, Cruise, CD, Moon Roof
#065400/10311A

\$16,595

97 Toyota Avalon XL

V6, Auto, AC, PW, PDL, Tilt, Cruise Control,
AM/FM Stereo Cass
#154323/1553P

\$16,995

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